

ought to be worth to the Province at least two dollars a thousand, therefore there were \$52,000,000 belonging to the people of Ontario, lying in the disputed country. In other words the Dominion Government robbed the Province to the extent of \$25 per head of the population.

An Hon. Member of the Opposition—Hear, hear. Mr. HAY—Hon. gentlemen say hear, hear, but if they were prepared to go so far as to support the contentions of the Dominion Government in this matter they would, he thought, go any lengths. In that House the Opposition members supported their Province, but outside of it they supported Sir John Macdonald. In this respect the leader of the Opposition occupied a humiliating position. Reverting to the character of the disputed territory, the hon. gentleman referred to the great mineral wealth attributed to that section of the Province by those competent to judge. He would read to the House from a report issued by the Department of the Interior showing their estimate of the areas of the various Provinces in this way:—Ontario, 109,430 square miles; Quebec, 195,355 square miles. How did his hon. friends like that comparison? Manitoba was stated to be 150,000 square miles in extent. With reference to the statement of Sir John Macdonald to the effect that they had the written statement of Sir Francis Hincks, one of the arbitrators, admitting that the arbitrators did not settle the true boundary in making the award, but settled it on a basis of convenience, the hon. gentleman read from a pamphlet issued by Sir Francis Hincks, in which the author said:—"It is not a little singular that the award was promptly accepted by Ontario, although the only questions of doubt were decided in favour of the Dominion. Both on the west and north the doubts were whether Ontario should not have had more territory." The legislation of the last session of the House of Commons with respect to this territory was of such an extraordinary nature that he was not surprised to learn that the Government had addressed a protest to the Federal Government. If the Dominion Government had boldly taken a stand in the matter before the House and before the people, then they could have respected them. But in a most cowardly way the members of that Government tried to shift the burden of settlement from their own shoulders upon those of Manitoba and Ontario. He had been surprised to see a member from Ontario for the House of Commons (Mr. Dalton McCarthy) defend that act, and actually congratulate his constituents that the Dominion Government had managed to get out of a difficulty by precipitating a quarrel between Ontario and Manitoba. That, in his opinion, was a dishonourable course to take. (Applause.) He hoped that the Government of the Province would take a drastic course in administering justice in that territory, and support the stipendiary magistrates there with a competent constabulary force. The timber interest was suffering from the lawless acts committed to the extent of hundreds of thousands of dollars, and that would go on so long as the present Dominion Government and its supporters trilled with the rights of this Province. (Applause.) He trusted that his hon. friends of the Opposition would inform Sir John Macdonald that their support at the coming general elections would be conditional on his conceding the rights of Ontario and performing an act of public justice. He could not believe that the position taken in the matter of this award by the present Dominion Government was endorsed by the Conservative party at large, as the claims of country should always take precedence of those of party. The disallowed streams Bill, referred to in the Speech, he characterized as a blow at the life of that House more than at its independence. If that House had not a sovereign control over all such legislation as was within its competence then they might as well have no control at all. (Hear, hear.) Some persons were in the habit of comparing that House with a county council, but they had not half the dignity of a county council. No one could interfere with the acts of a county council so long as it acted within the municipal law. The vetoing of the Streams Act amounted to this; there was no Act of that House passed at last session not subject to the same arbitrary exercise of the veto power at Ottawa. (Hear, hear.) It meant the subversion of the political autonomy of Ontario, and in that event they might as well step down and out. There had been among the leaders of the Tory party—he did not say in that House, but in the Dominion—an evident intention to educate the public mind to a state of agitation for its abolition. It was only the other day that an Ontario organ, breathing the true Tory spirit of centralization of power, expressed the opinion that the next thing would be an agitation for the abolition of the Parliament of Ontario. The Liberal party of this Province would at all events maintain in all its integrity the constitution as we had it, just as they would in the interests of its citizens stand by the maintenance of the territorial rights of the Province. The endeavour of the Federal Government to rob Ontario of her prestige, of her territory, and to destroy the position won by her by virtue of her wealth, intelligence, and by the extent of her contributions to the Federal treasury, the Liberal party would continue to stoutly oppose. (Applause.) He noted the appreciation of the Agricultural Commission's report by the farmers of the Province, and hoped that the Government would issue another edition of the report. With reference to the paragraph in the Speech setting forth the intention to establish a Bureau of Agricultural Statistics, he heartily concurred. The statistics at present furnished were, he ventured to say, so unreliable as to be entirely valueless. In proof of this he read figures regarding the average value of personal property and realty in the various counties in Ontario, figures they knew to be totally false. He hoped that the scope of the Bureau would be enlarged so as to include industrial returns as well as agricultural. He did not anticipate any considerable expense connected with this scheme, as they could utilize existing machinery. The staff in connection with the Immigration Department, with an efficient head, would, he thought, be able to perform all the work. The hon. gentleman concluded by a reference to the late President Garfield, and resumed his seat amid loud applause.

Mr. ROBINSON (Cardwell), in seconding the address, congratulated the Government on the number of sound practical measures which they had succeeded in adopting during their tenure of office. He defended the position of the Government on the question of the Ontario Boundary and that of the Streams Bill. On the latter question he pointed out the injustice of granting to individuals what amounted to a practical monopoly of the use of streams for the purpose of moving timber to market, and characterized it as a high-handed act of the Dominion Government, in vetoing what was purely a Provincial measure. He referred to the success of the Agricultural Commission, and the large amount of valuable information on agricultural subjects which was disseminated through its labours. He hoped the question of tolls and market fees would receive at the hands of the Government that consideration which its importance deserved. In many instances farmers were subject to hardship not only through having to pay fees at the market, but also through the existence of regulations limiting unnecessarily the hours in which they shall attend market. He contended that all articles of commerce should be admitted to market free, and it was indispensable that some just arrangement should be arrived at which would remove a measure so obnoxious to the agricultural interest. He pointed out the increased interest given to the question of sanitary reform in all civilized communities, and the necessity for the adoption of more stringent regulations in this direction in Ontario. The reduction of the death-rate was very large in European cities where proper attention had been paid to vaccination and the introduction of effective sanitary measures. He advocated the adoption in Canadian schools of regulations on vaccination similar to those in force in the schools of Germany, and thought that boards of health should be organized which would report regularly to the Government on the extent and character of all contagious diseases. The subject of school ventilation and the undue forcing of pupils, especially in the primary classes, called for the earnest consideration of the authorities. Referring to the training given in universities and the system of recognizing merit by awarding medals at these institutions, he suggested that some change should be made in the natural science branches, whereby honours would be won by men more for their success in original research than for any mere mental ability as the imitators of others. He favoured the establishment of free public libraries in cities, though he was disposed to doubt whether they could be maintained in a healthy condition supported entirely by Governmental aid. After referring in appropriate terms to the death of President Garfield, he concluded by seconding the address.

Mr. MOWAT suggested the adjournment of the debate. It would not be possible to bring it to a conclusion in one sitting, and nothing would be gained by prolonging it into the evening. He paid a high compliment to the mover and seconder of the address.

Mr. MEREDITH concurred in the suggestion of the Attorney General, and moved the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. MOWAT moved the adjournment of the House.

The House adjourned at 5:30.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. Dryden—On Wednesday next—Order of the House for a return showing the number of sheep killed by dogs, and the amounts paid for the same, in each of the municipalities in the Province for the years 1879, 1880, and 1881, respectively.

Mr. Waters—On Tuesday next—Bill to amend the Act respecting Lunatic Asylums and the Custody of Insane Persons.