

sets of Readers used, consequently there could be no loss on the ground of the publishers not being able to sell their book. He showed in the completest possible manner that the Opposition had all along introduced party politics into the educational system. He made an eloquent appeal against the continuation of such disgraceful partisan politics. He strongly declaimed against the Opposition having moved an amendment on going into Committee of Supply, and however nonsensical it might be they were bound to vote down the resolution if ever they got into Supply. He concluded by asking the House to treat the amendment as what it was, a vote of censure on and want of confidence in the Government, and vote it down.

Mr. CREIGHTON, after dealing with the question of the withheld subsidy, proceeded to defend the Dominion Government in withdrawing its obnoxious land regulations. In the matter of readers he accused the Government of shielding themselves behind the Central Committee, and asserted that this did not well comport with the reason assigned for the change from a superintendent of public instruction to a Minister of Education, namely, that there would Opposition did stand by the Province. Ever since Confederation the Province had certainly had one right undisputed by Courts or public men and those who discussed the matter, namely, the right to legislate upon the liquor traffic. The Opposition had stood by, and for partisan purposes had seen the Province invaded and deprived of its legislative rights. These men who, roused to madness because two sets of Readers had been authorized, were like dumb dogs when the legislative powers of the Province were being taken away. Once more, when a claim was being made for the financial rights of the Province, the Opposition was holding a brief against the Province. It was set forth that Ontario would have to pay the bill if the grant were made, and yet hon. gentlemen opposite were silent when the Dominion Treasury was being depleted by the Province of Quebec. He contended that if while the Province of Quebec were pressing their claims they were silent on behalf of Ontario, they would be traitors to their Province. He agreed with the hon. gentlemen opposite that if the money came from the Dominion Treasury Ontario would have the greatest portion to pay, but Ontario would be very much worse off if she stood by and allowed the other Provinces to have it paid out to them without taking a share. He proceeded to review the Opposition aspirations for office, and drew an amusing picture of the member for London surrounded by an eager crowd of seekers after portfolios. There were to his certain knowledge three or four embryo Treasurers, about six after the Provincial Secretary's office, a like number anxious to show their ability as Commissioners of Crown Lands, three were budding Ministers of Education, and heaven only knew how many there were waiting to warm his chair in the office of Public Works. (Loud and prolonged laughter.) The member for East Toronto here interrupted the Commissioner of Public Works, upon which the latter proceeded to set before the House the position of the former when on the evening of the general election in 1879 in the amphitheatre in Toronto he stated his anticipations with regard to office. He was then, as reported in the *Mail*, satisfied with being a "cook or bottle-washer," but even that slight solace had been refused him, and it would be a long time before he even got a "bottle-washing" position in the Ontario Government. (Laughter.) Passing to the reader question, he animadverted in strong terms to the vile insinuations that in authorizing the two sets of Readers the Government had been improperly influenced by a certain publisher. He read from the *Mail* an article which he said the Opposition dared not repudiate, which strongly urged the pre-eminent qualities of the Royal Series. Now the fact that they had authorized two series was a complete answer to the charge, for if the Government had wanted to favour the publishers of the Royal Readers surely they could not have had a more perfect answer for adopting only one series, and thus giving a favourite a monopoly. The fact that they had not so was a complete answer.

Mr. MEREDITH said the leader read sounded like an advertisement.

Mr. FRASER said that was something which he would not have said. That was really a bad thing to say of their own organ, for it was an insinuation that provided the price was paid the *Mail* could be bought to puff and praise a set of Readers which were not fit to be put into the Public Schools. He said the *Mail* article was an answer to the charge that they had given an additional fillip to the "Nelson" series by adopting them for the Normal and Model Schools. He appealed to the Opposition to say if, with the article before them he had quoted and the report of the Central Committee, they, forced as they were to make a choice between the two sets, could have done otherwise than they did. His hon. friend from North Grey had almost shed tears over the school inspectors being beheaded. (Hear, hear.) He had some experience in matters of law.

Mr. MORRIS—Hear, hear.

Mr. FRASER said he never expected to become a chief justice though. (Laughter.) His hon. friend had argued a case from a supposition standpoint. He did not touch the Act which had been quoted by the Hon. the Provincial Secretary. "Unauthorized text books were not to be used without leave" was the side note to the clause in the Act. He asked his hon. friends if that section was to be used in any locality where there were two authorized text

1880, giving the reasons therefor in each case, and copies of any correspondence in the Education Department bearing upon the subject.

Mr. Kerns—On Monday next—Enquiry of the Ministry whether the Government intend to introduce any legislation this session amending the Public School Act by providing for the election of trustees by ballot.

Mr. Drury—On Monday next—Bill to amend the Consolidated Municipal Act of 1883.

Mr. Fell—On Monday next—Bill to amend Municipal Act.

Mr. McLaughlin—On Monday next—Order of the House for copies of all correspondence with the Dominion Government, or any member or officer thereof, with Major Gaskell, acting on behalf of the Irish Immigration Commissioners, and Mr. Hodgkins on behalf of the Tuke Fund, as to the special Irish immigration to Canada in the summer of 1883.

Mr. Preston—On Monday next—Enquiry of Ministry whether it is the intention of the Government to introduce legislation to compel owners of public buildings, such as hotels, halls, schools, boarding houses, and other buildings in use by the public, to keep fire-escapes attached to said buildings.

Mr. Widdifield—On Monday next—Bill respecting Pharmacy.

Mr. Meredith—On Monday next—Address for a return of copies of all correspondence and communications with, or by, the Attorney-General or any member or officer of the Government and any other person, and all reports and Orders in Council, with reference to the removal from the office of Police Magistrate of Port Perry of John Nott, Esquire.

The Attorney-General—On Monday next—Bill to amend the Act respecting the supplying of cities, towns, and villages with water and gas.