

terests ask us to remit in exchange for the great commercial advantages which we could obtain for the city of Quebec: and my hon. friend and colleague, the Minister of Public Works, has announced to-day that a measure settling that question will be brought down. Until that measure comes down, the hon. gentleman is not in a position to discuss the policy of the Government; and when it does come down I am prepared, as a representative of the district of Quebec, to stand up and discuss that question with him. But, Sir, though I am an advocate of the building of that bridge, I never considered that the Government of this country should assume the responsibility of building it alone.

Mr. LANGELIER. Hear, hear.

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. "Hear, hear," says the hon. gentleman, though I am only repeating what the hon. gentleman himself said. He says that when the combination of these various interests, the Intercolonial, the Grand Trunk and the Canadian Pacific Railway, make the building of that bridge a necessity, it will then be time for the Government of Canada—

Mr. LANGELIER. I said nothing of the kind. The hon. gentleman did not hear me. That was what I quoted from the remarks of Sir Charles Tupper.

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. That is exactly the position which the hon. gentleman has taken, because he says that all he knows about this bridge is what Sir Charles Tupper has promised, and the promise of Sir Charles Tupper is the promise of a man who knows the interests of Canada: and I am quite prepared to say that when that bridge becomes a commercial necessity from the development of the great railway interests at that point, then will be the time for the Government of Canada to discuss what proportion of help we can give towards the building of that bridge. Now, I know very well that the hon. gentleman feels very bitter against his late opponent in Quebec Centre because he was very nearly defeated by that gentleman.

Mr. LANGELIER. Not so nearly as the gentleman who was defeated in the County of Quebec.

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. I know that the hon. gentleman feels very sore, because he met there a foe who very nearly defeated him, and nearly prevented him from sitting in the seat he now occupies. I can say more than that. I can say that Mr. Châteaufort, in all his pledges to the electors, displayed that judgment which might be expected in a man occupying the prominent position which he does in commercial circles in Quebec, and never made any promises as a candidate on behalf of the Government which he should not have made. Now, Sir, when the papers are brought down and the Bill with regard to the \$1,000,000 of bonds is introduced, if that Bill is not acceptable to the House, it will be time for the hon. gentleman to complain that the Government have not looked after the interests of the city of Quebec.

Mr. LANGELIER. The hon. gentleman does not seem to understand the remarks of Sir Charles Tupper any better than mine. He attributed to me some words which I quoted from the speech delivered by Sir Charles Tupper when he came to Quebec, but I said nothing of that kind myself. I

Sir ADOLPHE CARON.

did not say that we would have to wait until the Intercolonial, the Grand Trunk and the Canadian Pacific Railways would build a bridge. If they would build a bridge, it would be unnecessary for us to come to Parliament to ask for assistance for it. I never talked such nonsense, nor did Sir Charles Tupper either. But here is what Sir Charles Tupper said on that occasion—I repeat it because the hon. Minister does not seem to have understood his remarks:

"You may, one and all, regard that work as a completed fact."

That is the statement of the paper.

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. That is exactly what I said.

Mr. LANGELIER. If it is an accomplished fact, according to the speech made by the hon. Minister, I must say that the bridge is much easier to build than we ever thought it would be. I wanted to know, when Mr. Châteaufort stated, not only in his spoken speech, in which allowance might be made for a slip of the tongue, but in the speech which he took the trouble to get printed and distributed, in the shape of a circular, broadcast through the city of Quebec, that:

"After having obtained from the Ottawa Government, through the influence of our Ministers, Sir Hector and Sir Adolphe, the remission of the \$1,000,000 debentures and a promise of assistance for the bridge from Quebec to Lévis"—

He was only coming forward after having obtained that promise: he stated the truth. Did he ever obtain that promise? The hon. Minister did not say one word to show that he had made any such promise, or that any such promise had been given by the Government: but he said, when all those great commercial corporations, the Intercolonial, the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Grand Trunk Railway, agree, the Government will agree that they should let them build the bridge. That is the substance of what he said here. Is that what he said to Mr. Châteaufort? If it is, it is not what Mr. Châteaufort said to the citizens of Quebec. If we are to take as the truth what the hon. Minister said a few minutes ago, and we are bound to believe him, he made no such promise, and Mr. Châteaufort shamefully deceived the citizens of Quebec. The hon. Minister said that Mr. Châteaufort talked a good deal of common sense when speaking of that bridge. There is no question about Mr. Châteaufort's common sense, but what about his veracity? Did he tell the truth when he said to the citizens of Quebec that he had such an important promise, and was attempting to be elected on the faith of such promise. We have not been able to obtain from the Minister an answer, yes or no. I believe the Government never gave such a promise, or, if they did, they do not want to keep their word.

Motion agreed to.

THE CASE OF WILLIAM LAIDLAW.

Mr. McMULLEN moved for:

Return of all letters, correspondence and papers relating to the cause of the resignation and removal of William Laidlaw, of Arthur, from the North-West Mounted Police, and all papers and correspondence relating to his application for compensation for the loss of his thumb while in the service; also, the award of compensation paid him, if any.

He said: In 1874, Mr. William Laidlaw engaged in the first corps of the Mounted Police that went