

syndicate is now establishing in Montreal extensive elevators and would be able in conjunction with such an enterprise as this, if they should combine, to control the export trade of grain to the exclusion of independent shippers or at least be able to discriminate against them in the way of charges. If that should be found to occur at any time in the future it would be most important that the government should have power to take control of this enterprise. If we found in future that our own ports were being discriminated against we would then have it in our power to prevent it. I think we should preserve in our own hands the powers that the amendment of the member for West Toronto (Mr. Clarke) provides for reserving in the hands of the government.

Mr. A. T. WOOD (Hamilton). I would not take part in this debate but for the remarks made by the hon member for West York (Mr. Wallace), who said that I was in this Bill for what I could make out of it. I tell the hon. gentleman that I am not there for that purpose. I joined my hon. friend from Kent. Ont. (Mr. Campbell) for the purpose of building the road, and if any of his friends in Toronto, in case the Bill passes through the House and the company is formed, wish to take my place, I would be glad to resign in their favour. The member for West York is much concerned because I, as a representative of Hamilton, should be doing anything that would assist the city of Toronto in enlarging its borders in any way. I may say to the hon. gentleman that the boats connected with this road are supposed to start from Hamilton, therefore Hamilton has an interest in the success of this undertaking. I may also say to the hon. gentleman that I have considerable interest and considerable property in Toronto, perhaps a good deal more than he supposes, and in promoting this Bill I am advancing my own interests in Toronto just as much as in Hamilton. But we must give the hon. gentleman a little leeway in his remarks, because he has just returned from an expedition through the country where he has been treated by a number of clubs in a most enthusiastic manner. Of course he comes back here highly elated after having been greeted as a conqueror up west. I congratulate him on obtaining once more the position he has held for so many years among his friends, and I hope he will long continue to enjoy the enviable position of grand master. The leader of the opposition has spoken strongly about the wealth, respectability, responsibility, and so forth, of the gentlemen who were connected with the other Bill. I have not a word to say against the respectability individually of the gentlemen connected with the board of trade. The board of trade seems to be in his estimation the very strength and

Mr. GUILLET.

essence of that company. Well, I may say that perhaps he does not know all about the board of trade in Toronto. There are certain things connected with that organization that possibly, if they were known, would not increase his estimation of it. The hon. member for West Toronto (Mr. Clarke) knows what I refer to, therefore, I need say nothing more.

Mr. CLARKE. If the hon. gentleman knows anythings derogatory to the character of the gentlemen who were applying, he should be man enough to say all he knows about them.

Mr. WOOD. I say nothing about the gentlemen—

Mr. CLARKE. Yes, you have.

Mr. WOOD. If the hon. gentleman wants to answer me, let him wait until I get through my speech. I simply say this, that there are some things about the board of trade at Toronto that the most respectable people of this country would not care to have attached to themselves.

Mr. CLARKE. Now let us hear what it is.

Mr. WOOD. The hon. gentleman knows quite well what it is, and he need not ask me the question. He is fully posted.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Explain.

Mr. WOOD. Well, if the hon. gentlemen will apply to the member for West Toronto, he will explain it to them. I was simply going to remark to the leader of the opposition that all the wealth, and all the energy, and all the respectability are not bound up in the board of trade of Toronto. There are many men of means, many men of energy and enterprise outside of that board of trade. Some of the gentlemen connected with my hon. friend's Bill in Toronto are quite as able financially to finance a large scheme like this as any gentleman connected with the board of trade. I can only say that the gentlemen connected with the board of trade are certainly very respectable gentlemen, and when they come down here and bring their Bill before the House, I am quite satisfied it will receive fair treatment, but, if they were willing to accept a clause in their Bill that would simply make it useless, I am inclined to think they would show a great want of business knowledge. I have had some experience in building railways and floating bonds, and I can say that it would be utterly impossible to float a bond on the English market with any cloud over the bonds of the road such as this amendment of the hon. member for