

connected. A consultation was held with the venerable pastor of the church, and the question was taken up as to how to secure these people who were becoming dissatisfied? His solution of the difficulty was expressed in these words: "Make deacons of them." So, Sir, when we found the hon. gentleman putting separate resolutions on this question into the hands of various members of the patriotic band who sit behind him, I concluded that he was making deacons of some of these gentlemen, feeling it necessary to put them on record as being bound by the resolution for fear they should become restive. In the resolution moved by the hon. member for Iberville (Mr. Béchard), I find it stated:—

"That the arrangements for the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway should be such as the resources of the country would permit, without increasing the former rates of taxation, and that the work, if to be constructed by a Company, should be let only after tenders had been obtained therefor, and should be subjected to purchase by the Government at 10 per cent. over cost."

Now, Sir, I have a curious commentary to make on that resolution. There is a resolution drafted by the right hand of the leader of the Opposition, to which the leader of the Opposition pledged himself by voting for it—as is shown by his name standing recorded for it on the journals of Parliament—that he believed it to be true. If the hon. gentleman believed that the policy of all parties had been, as stated, in the resolution, then the hon. gentleman's memory was sadly at fault. I do not now know whether he was a member of the Government at the time the Order in Council was drawn up which was approved by His Excellency on the 8th of July, 1874, but if he was not, he had ceased to be a member but for a very short time, and at all events he was a member when the Tariff was passed to which the Order in Council makes reference.

Mr. BLAKE. No, I was not at either date.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. Still I am afraid the hon. gentleman will have to get the hon. member for Iberville (Mr. Béchard) and every man who voted for that resolution to withdraw it, or else he will be in the position of charging his colleagues whom he had but lately left, of going in the face of their own document, the Order in Council of the 8th of July, 1874. I will read what was stated there, and you will remember that they were drawing up an Order in Council which was to be sent to the Imperial Government, that they were solemnly declaring the policy of their Government. And here are the remarkable words they use:

"In order to enable the Government to carry out the proposals which it was hoped the British Columbia Government would have accepted, the average rate of taxation was raised at the late Session about 15 per cent.