had been chiefly instrumental in forming the ticket in opposition to the Government, but that was, also, incorrect. He had merely acted with friends in the matter and was no more responsible than any other of a dozen or two others who were leading opponents of the Government.—Indeed Mr. Troy was suggested to him by Mr. Hutchison, himself, and while he was informed on good authority that Mr. Hutchison had consented to the formation of the ticket, he was present when Mr. Gillespie gave his assent to the only condition required of the Candidates who were asked to join the ticket. He (Mr. Smith) had, in the presence of the gentlemen referred to, asked Mr. Gillespie if he pledged himself not to support the present Government, or any re-formation of it but to require that some gentleman, not now a member of Government, should be called upon by the Lieutenant Governor to form a new Government? Mr. Gillespie gave his unreserved assent to this condition and also consented to go canvassing in Glenelg and Hardwick next day in Mr. Hutchison's double team, together with Messrs. Hutchison, Troy and Burchill.—Mr. Gillespie, however, was a gentleman with a most unfortunate memory. He, no doubt, struggled hard to be honest and square with other men, but his memory failed him just at important times and those failures of memory happened, as a rule, to be conveniently on hand at times when they were necessary for the real or imaginary promotion of Mr. Gillespie's peculiar plans. So it happened, by the next day after the understanding referred to had been arrived at, that Mr. Gillespie began to doubt that he had pledged himself to a half-dozen of his fellow-electors and in two days more he was so certain that it was all a mistake, that he went to a local Government organ and denied the whole arrangement. Then, on Nomination Day, he had so far forgotten his opposition leanings as to say that he had determined to support the Government, should sufficient other candidates favoring the Government be returned to assist him. He (Mr. Smith) and hundreds of others in the County who had sympathised with Messrs. Gillespie and Hutchison in the plucky fights they, with others, had made in the Legislature against the Government, were ready to back them on their return. They could not believe that there was any understanding with the Surveyor-General that there should be no contest. They remembered how, for four years, the Opposition, aided by two of our members had been charged with wasting the time of the House, and impeding necessary legislation, while they were fighting for reform in the administration of Provincial affairs, and it was natural to expect that those two gentlemen would not come home and, when an election came on, say, by their conduct, that they were willing to admit they had been contending for no principle—for nothing worth fighting out with their opponents at the polls. He believed Mr. Gillespie had acted badly in that matter and forfeited the support of electors who valued principle and truth and honor in our public men. It was true that Mr. Gillespie had repudiated the ticket, as Mr. Adams had stated, but it was also true that he had consented to it and his repudiation could not affect the integrity of those whom he had tricked and betrayed. Mr. Gillespie was a personal friend of his and, personally, he wished him well, but, as a public man, that gentleman did not deserve support or sympathy.

A PROFESSED OPPOSITIONIST IN 1878.

The Surveyor General prided himself on having made quite a point in his nomination speech by reading some editorial paragraphs from the ADVANCE as a refutation of the statement that he did not, in his nomination speech, in 1878, ask support for himself and Mr. Gillespie on their record as opposition men from 1870 to 1874. Mr. Adams had addressed most insulting language to the speaker in reference to this matter in his Newcastle speech and really imagined that he had proved his denial. There could be no doubt that he canvassed in opposition in 1878, for gentlemen now present had heard him, as Mr. Troy had said, claim support because Gillespie and he belonged to the "Irish Brigade,' so called, whose ranks could not be broken during the term of the first House, of which they were both members. The ADVANCE editorials referred to were written and published *after* Mr. Adams was elected and were merely in reply to the *News*, which claimed the four Northumberland members elected in 1878 as oppositionists. Even when Mr. Adams was appealing to the electors in 1878 on his opposition record, he (Mr. Smith) had reason to believe he was to be offered a seat in the Government, if successful in the election, and he knew enough of Mr. Adams not to doubt that he would accept. Mr. Smith here traced his acquaintanceship with Mr. Adams from 1870 to 1878 and showed that he had been his personal and political friend for those eight years and said he desired to do nothing in 1878 to prevent Mr. Adams from accepting the offer of a seat in the Government. Hence, the editorials which Mr. Adams read at Newcastle to prove he had not canvassed as an opposition man. It was thus his friendship of those years was now requited by that gentleman.

Mr. Adams stated at Newcastle that after he entered the Government and returned to the County Mr. Smith was very anxious to see him. On that point Mr. Smith said.

MR. ADAMS' CHANGE OF BASE IN 1878.

I was no more anxious to see Mr. Adams than he appeared to be to see me. I confess that I felt an interest in him, but it was only that of a personal and political friend, glad of his success. I well remember how the news of Mr. Adams' joining the Government was received—how his having become the political associate of Robert Young of Caraquet excited the undisguised indignation and opposition of many of those who were, and are to-day, his best and especial friends and supporters. I knew, however, how soon all this would be changed and that more rational views would take the place of the openly-expressed threats of opposition to his return when he presented himself for re-election. There were not, however, wanting men who were ready to resent what they believed to be his desertion of his principles and party and it was at this stage of events that the hon. gentleman came to Chatham. I met him on the street and, I assure you gentlemen, I was not the most anxious of the two just then.

THE BARGAIN WHICH THE SURVEYOR GENERAL VIOLATED.

After I had congratulated him we went to my office together and he asked me whether there was to be opposition to him or not. I replied that it would altogether depend on himself. Just then, as you will remember, the Dominion elections were pending and local politics were not, after all, of great consequence to a good many of us. So I told Mr. Adams that his unopposed return would depend on the course he proposed to take in the Dominion election. He endeavored to evade this, but I said to him, you know you have, for some time, assisted Mr. Mitchell in his elections, have spoken at meetings in different parts of the County in his behalf and done what you could to promote his political success. So long as you were, simply, Michael Adams, we could not object to your doing that, but now you are a member of the Government and have at your disposal patronage and influence, which you have been placed in a position to obtain by votes of Mr. Snowball's as well as of those of Mr. Mitchell's friends. If you intend to turn that influence and patronage against Mr. Snowball in the Dominion canvass you shall now be opposed. After some further conversation of this nature, in which the Surveyor General admitted the fairness of my position, he said he would be absent from the County attending to the affairs of the Department to which he had been called and would not assist Mr. Mitchell in public against us. On those conditions, I told him I would do what I could to secure his unopposed return as Surveyor General, and thought it could be easily managed. I knew, gentlemen, how soon the adverse feeling against Mr. Adams, for entering the Government, would be allayed and that his return would, in any case, be sure. I felt also that the Mitchell party would not be slow, in the event of Mr. Adams being opposed, to give out that as Adams' election went so would go the contest between Mitchell and Snowball, so I was justified by political policy as well as my own personal friendship for Mr. Adams in making the arrangement I have stated.

Why, the hon. gentleman felt so embarrassed at that time that he confessed to me that he had not been able to frame his card to the electors and as he sat beside me I took up my pen and wrote every line of his card, as Surveyor-General, save one paragraph After he left me I thought of something else he ought to add and I wrote it. I would not add this new paragraph without his seeing it, so I went on the street to show it to him, and found him in a waggon with Mr. Thomas Crimmin—and I know he will excuse me for mentioning his name—just on the point of starting for the picnic being held that day in connection with the new Roman Catholic Chapel at Black Brook,—and here let me say that Messrs. Crimmin, at that time, never wavered in their friendship for the hon. gentleman, although almost all his other friends did so for a time. I handed the new paragraph up to him in the waggon, saying "here's something that has come in since" and he said it was all right. When the ADVANCE appeared immediately after, it contained a short article referring to the importance of having a representative of the County in the Government, intimating that there was to be no opposition to Mr. Landry in Westmorland and expressing the desirability of Mr. Adams being also returned by acclamation. Many of my political friends, after that editorial appeared, asked me what I meant by so summarily discouraging those who desired to oppose Mr. Adams, but when the situation was explained they felt that the arrangement effected was a good one and were satisfied. But Mr. Adams broke the pledge he had made; he used all the influence at his command in that Dominion election and when the ADVANCE resented his dishonorable conduct he turned around and said it was because Smith wanted him to settle a claim of $600 against the Government and he refused. No such claim was ever presented to or through him; I never made any application to him, directly or indirectly, and he has not a word, a line, a letter to back up that statement. It was invented by him to cover his shameful breach of confidence with me—a promise made also to dozens of others who were opponents of Mr. Mitchell in 1878.

The hon. gentleman charged in his speeches both here and in Newcastle that I had hounded him for four years with "slander," "abuse" and "blackguardism," but it was notorious that from the time Mr. Adams was secured in his position in 1878 he pursued a policy of hatred and opposition towards both my paper and myself. No sooner did the ADVANCE resent his course in the Dominion election in 1878 than his home organ at Newcastle charged that I was a contract-breaker and had robbed the Province of some $2.400 in connection with the reporting of the Debates of the House of Assembly.

THE OFFICIAL DEBATES MATTER.

In the first place, gentlemen, the Government never made a contract with me as alleged, in their behalf, by the Surveyor-General and others. I was sent for by the Government in 1878 and asked to undertake the official reporting. They made an arrangement with me by which I was to send an average of 2,000 words every day to each of the three St. John daily papers and an average of 400 words a week to the fourteen weeklies of the Province. I was to do all the work of reporting and pay for the telegraphing of all this matter. I told the Government and leading members of the House that they were making an arrangement, which would not be satisfactory to them as two thousand words a day were inadequate to give the public as full reports of members' utterances as they would desire. This arrangement lasted only a few days, when members representing both Government and Opposition side, requested me to abandon the original arrangement, agreeing that if I would send adequate reports to the St. John dailies they would see me paid what was fair, through the Contingent Committee. Acting on this I increased the expense of the work. At the end of that session I paid the Western Union Telegraph Company, between eight and nine hundred dollars for telegraphing, having sent as many as eight or nine thousand words over the wires some days. The reports were honestly and promptly furnished to the press of the Province as I had agreed to do and members expressed themselves satisfied with my work. I had no complaints from Government or opposition and can easily prove that my work was faithfully done, if the fact is questioned by any man. At the end of the session all that remained to be done was to supply the Legislature with the matter which I had already reported in book form. That work was being carried forward in my office with all reasonable despatch, some 175 pages being already printed—although, owing to the pending elections that was a busy year for us—when the local and some other organs in the Surveyor General's interest published the charge that I had robbed the country of over $2,000 in connection with a contract. On seeing this statement I gave orders to suspend the work until a less busy season. A few more pages are to print and the work will be finished. Practically it will cost me but a few dollars to place the books in the hands of the Government, but they have so vilified me in the matter that I shall finish the work at my leisure, unless a better Government takes the place of that of which Mr Adams is a member. The hon. gentleman at Newcastle, on nomination day, went so far as to apply to me the term, "Public thief!" Gentlemen, there was but one reply which a man could make under such circumstances. I rose in my place and said, "and you, sir, are a public liar!" I regret that the hon. gentleman should have provoked me to the use of such language. "It must needs be that offences shall come, but woe to him through whom the offence cometh"; Mr. Adams gave the offence and while I am sorry that such language should be used in public discussion, I would have been lacking in courage, as a man, if I had not hurled the insult back at him. He took advantage of his position in that Court House, surrounded by men who were nearly all in sympathy with him—in a place where a hearing was refused me—to insult me as only a moral coward would do.

MR. ADAMS AND THE TRACADIE LAZARETTO.

One of the first matters of public concern in reference to which the ADVANCE opposed the policy of Mr. Adams and the Government was the management of the Tracadie Lazaretto. Those most familiar with the subject had reason to believe that considering the opportunities they had, those who controlled the Government patronage there, were administering it most corruptly. It is an open secret that the supplies for the institution were furnished largely by a corrupt ring of which Hon. Robert Young of Caraquet was the head, and that much more was paid for than was ever delivered at the Lazaretto, while it was suspected that many a gallon of molasses, many a pound of pork, many a pound of tea, as well as other articles, found their way out of the institution for consumption among those who should leave protected rather than robbed it. Such public men as Dr. Tache, and Hon. Mr. Anglin, aided by the press, had always insisted that the care of the lepers should be assumed by the Dominion Government, because it was a matter of internal quarantine, and their efforts to secure the change were rendered the more necessary by the corruption and mismanagement I have referred to. The Chairman of the Board, Rev. Mr. Babineau, the Secretary, Mr. A. K. McDougall and one or two others waged a constant warfare against the majority of the Board. These gentlemen, by their honest efforts to put down the dishonesty and corruption they knew was being practiced, rendered themselves obnoxious to Messrs. Young. Their integrity stood in the way, and it was determined that they should be got rid of. No sooner had Hon. Robert Young secured Mr. Adams as a colleague in the Government than he made use of him to effect his purpose. By insolence of conduct, the majority of the Board rendered the Chairman's position so disagreeable to him that he was forced, out of self-respect, to absent himself from their meetings quite often. But Mr. McDougall was more directly attacked. Through the advice of Messrs. Young and Adams the Government undertook to dismiss that gentleman, so one day Mr. Adams telegraphed from Fredericton to that effect and asked Father Babineau to recommend someone to succeed Mr. McDougall. Back went the Chairman's reply to know what the charges were against Mr. McDougall and protesting against his dismissal. To this Mr. Adams at once replied that Mr. McDougall was to be dismissed because he lived so far from the Lazaretto, and, naming several creatures of the Youngs, he asked which of them the Chairman would recommend. Father Babineau knew well the trap that Messrs. Young and Adams were endeavoring to get him into, so he telegraphed back to say that if the Government had determined to dismiss Mr. McDougall he had no recommendation to make. That plan, gentlemen, fell through, for in view of the dignified stand taken by the Chairman of the Board the Government dare not dismiss Mr. McDougall. But, Messrs. Young and Adams soon devised another plan to punish the Chairman and Mr. Mc. Dougall. They enlarged the membership of the Board and made sufficient new appointments of Young's creatures to vote the dismissal of Mr. McDougall, which was carried by the casting vote of a relative of Messrs. Young who was in the Chair. What was the result? The Chairman and other gentlemen who knew of the public robbery being carried on preferred charges against the management of the Lazaretto, the result being an investigation by two members of the Government—Messrs. Landry and Wedderburn—who found affairs in such a disgraceful state that the Board was dimissed in a body—thereby doing a great injustice to the honest members who had stood between the public and the majority of the Board—and the management of the Lazaretto was assumed by the Government of the Province until the transfer was made to the Dominion Government. The gentleman selected to take over the property for the Dominion was the late Chairman of the Board who, with Mr. McDougall, had been so persecuted by Messrs. Young and Adams. The latter gentleman, when censured by some who were familiar with the part he played with Mr. Young in this matter, has said,—"It is true I helped to make it hot for Father Babineau and McDougall, but it was through my influence with the Dominion Government that Father Babineau represented the Dominion Government when the transfer was made. Well, gentlemen, no doubt some of Mr. Adams' friends will be deceived by that plausible story, but I will read to you a letter showing what the gentleman most interested thinks of Messrs. Adams and Young in the matter. This letter is dated the day the transfer was effected,—

Tracadie, Nov. 25th, 1880.

MY DEAR SIR:—I write to inform you that the transfer of the Lazaretto properties under the Federal Government was operated this morning. Hon. Mr. Landry who was delegated by the Provincial Government, arrived here yesterday evening, and this morning I received from him, for the Dominion Government, all the Lazaretto property and every thing belonging to the institution. I was told that my appointment to represent the Minister of Agriculture in this transfer, was objected to at head quarters, by some of our friends; but the recommendation of Hon. Mr. Anglin and of Dr. J. C. Tache, prevailed and to my great surprise I was offered the office which I accepted.

When I began to expose publicly the miserable condition of the lepers and the reckless administration of the Lazaretto under the majority of the Board of Health, I had no idea that the final result of my humble efforts would be its transfer under the Dominion Government, which means, the lepers better clothed and better fed, the supplies brought safely to their destination, while I trust a saving will be effected. A deep debt of gratitude is due to Dr. Tache who worked most zeolously and indefatigably to bring about the present satisfactory state of affairs.

I beg to thank you again for your courtesy and kindness, not only in leaving at my disposal so much space in your paper during the agitation of that question; but also for your valuable and powerful aid you gave by your compositions and in other ways that you know.

At one time I regretted that politics had been introduced into that question, altho' I had guarded against that, for I saw that the granting of justice would appear like a back down on the part of the Government. But now I doubt if we would have the transfer, if the conduct of two hon. members had not so compromised their colleagues as to render the influence of the whole body, with the Dominion Government, necessary to have the transfer effected without delay. The old saying—"When the Devil he was sick, a monk he would be" is about verified in their case; when they had rendered their position untenable, they would have the transfer. I am sorry I cannot be under any obligation to those hon. gentlemen for the better condition of affairs about the Lazaretto, which is commencing to dawn at the horizon of its future history.

Wishing you success and prosperity in your undertakings, for the greater good of the community.

I remain,
Yours truly,
J. A. BABINEAU.

D. G. Smith, Esq., Chatham.

That letter, gentlemen, and the facts I have given you are a sufficient answer as to whether the ADVANCE was right in opposing Mr. Adams and his friend, Young, in the Lazaretto business

You would think that after he had lent himself to Mr. Young's purposes and had secured Mr. McDougall's dismissal, he would have ceased to persecute that gentleman. I need not tell you what the character of Mr. McDougall is for you all know him. He is one of Northumberland's most intelligent and honorable citizens. He has long been a Deputy Crown Land Surveyor and as such enjoys the confidence of the County. Is it not, therefore, a shame that a man holding the position of Surveyor-General of this Province should, pursue a fellow-citizen like A. K. McDougall in a persecuting and vindictive spirit and take from him the Government work which he had been doing for years, thus attacking the man's very living in his efforts to break him down. I say every true man ought to feel like resenting Mr. Adams' conduct in this matter, and it was that, as much as anything, which placed the ADVANCE in a position of opposition to the Government, which allowed the Surveyor General to so prostitute its patronage and power.

THE BOGUS CROWN LANDS SALE.

The Surveyor-General has thought proper to charge me with a great deal in connection with his Crown Lands management. He endeavours to place the responsibility of nearly all the opposition and trouble he has met with in respect of his Crown Lands management on my shoulders, but I remember only two transactions of his which have been the subject of particular attack in the ADVANCE. Let me premise by saying that I am not so much opposed to the sale of public lands as to the mode of selling which Mr. Adams has adopted. One of the transactions for which the Surveyor-General was censured in the ADVANCE was the bogus sale of land in Kent. You all know, doubtless, that our lumber operators obtain leases at the Crown Lands sales in Fredericton, at whatever they may bid per mile, and pay stumpage for the lumber they obtain from the lands so secured—holding their leases for three years. Mr. McLeod had leases of certain lots or blocks in Kent and the Surveyor General advertised them for absolute sale, on application of two gentlemen—one an official in the Public Works office and another a private citizen of Fredericton. The object was clearly to annoy and cause unnecessary expense to Mr. McLeod who did not want to buy the lands, but only to get lumber off them. The Surveyor General must have thought Mr. McLeod would be obliged to bid in the lands at a high figure rather than have his operations disturbed, for the applicants did not want the land. Mr. McLeod, however, did not buy and Messrs. Winslow and Myshrall—the applicants—had the lands "dropped" on them. That the sale was bogus—that these men were put forward by Mr. Adams—was proved by the fact that they were never required to pay a cent for the lands and the Department still retains them. It is the custom with a certain class of politicians to represent those engaged in the lumber trade as monopolists and speak of them as if the country needed protection from them, but there can be no more unjust cry. That trade is sustaining the country to a greater extent than many persons realise. It brings ships to our ports, gives employment in our mills, on our rivers and in our forests. It affords a market to our farmers and, in fact, our interests are all identified with it. It takes large capital to run it and the men who put their capital in it have a right to reasonable treatment and protection from, at least, unnecessary annoyances. If a lumber operator has lands under lease and any other man requires them for business or settlement purposes no one can object to their being offered for sale, subject of course to the vested interest of the lessee, but bogus transactions like that by which the Surveyor General attempted annoy and cause loss to Mr. McLeod are attacks upon the trade and industry of the country and no man can justify them. The ADVANCE was, therefore, right in censuring Mr. Adams in that matter.

THE HEMLOCK LANDS SALE.

A great cry has been raised by the Surveyor General in reference to the ADVANCE's criticisms on the Kent Hemlock lands sales, and he would have the country believe that I am, thereby, attacking the business of Messrs. Miller. No man has a higher opinion of the Millers than myself. They are among our very best and most enterprising business men and are doing a great deal of good in the country, and I would be among the last to say or do anything to interfere with the success of their business. Still, if I am honestly convinced that they are being favored at the sacrifice of the public interest I have the right to say so. In his Nomination speech the Surveyor General represented the Kent Hemlock peelers and lumberers—the French of that county—as little better than thieves.

Mr. R. B. Adams,—The Surveyor General did not say that and it is not fair to misrepresent him.

Mr. Smith,—Do not be so tender about the Surveyor General as he is not so tender in dealing with others. He said it was impossible to collect stumpage in Kent and that they were so dishonest there that it would take all the Government to watch them. Who but the French did he mean, I would like to know? He said that where there was a lot of granted land beside a lot of Crown land, the Government never got any stumpage; and, yet what did he do in this county of dishonest people? Look at the survey of the lots selected by the Millers; it runs every way and the 2,000 acres are so situated that there are 20,000 acres of crown lands lying around them. Messrs. Miller are no doubt honest, but the men who will peel bark for them are—according to Mr. Adams—a lot of thieves. Do you suppose they will not get over the lines and upon the Crown lands? And do you suppose Messrs. Miller are going to interfere to protect the Government? I say the crown lands should not be sold under such surveys. If sold, they should be sold in large blocks so that the public interest may be protected. Besides, these carefully selected hemlock lands are very valuable. Such lands in the State of Maine are estimated by the State authorities to produce four cords of bark per acre and the value is put at $1.50 per cord on the stump. This would make those Kent lands worth $6 per acre for the bark alone, and, yet, the Surveyor General parted with the lands, bark and all, at $2 an acre. The Millers only professed to want the bark and they should have had it secured to them, but the absolute sale of those lands under such a survey and at such a price was not in the interest of the public or necessary to the success of Messrs. Miller's business.

MIRAMICHI VALLEY RAILWAY.

I find that I have occupied more time than I had anticipated and must omit reference to several matters embraced in the Surveyor-General's canvass against the ADVANCE and myself. In his Newcastle speech the Surveyor-General poured out the vials of his wrath upon me, because I had exposed the course of the so-called Directors and delegates of the Miramichi Valley Railway. I had intended to deal quite fully with the whole question, but I will only touch upon the principal points. I well remember the speech with which the Provincial Secretary introduced the Railway Subsidies Act of 1874, which provided for the Valley Railway with others. He showed that after all the ordinary public services were provided for,, our surplus, if capitalised, would build all the roads provided for in the Act and leave a balance of a million to the good. There is or ought to be no change for the worse in our financial position. Mr. Wedderburn, on the other hand, argued that the subsidy of $5,000 was too little to offer for the encouragement of Railways, and, yet, last winter the Attorney-General (who was Secretary in 1874) pretended, when the Miramichi Valley claims were put forward, that the Province could only afford to give $3,000 a mile, while Mr. Wedderburn, as Provincial Secretary—the gentleman who had before said $5,000 a mile was too little—mocked us by offering that paltry sum.—But why, you may ask, was not the rail way built under the Act of 1874? I say and am prepared to prove, that it was because Messrs. R. R. Call, Mr. Adams and others prevented it. I am sorry the Surveyor General is not here to-night to get his answer to a bold and defiant challenge he made on Nomination Day at Newcastle. I well remember, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, a little meeting held in Fredericton one night during the session of 1875 at which, on behalf of Mr. Gibson and the Riviere du Loup Railway Company, it was proposed that they should undertake the building of the Valley Railway for the subsidy of $5,000 a mile. We had then Mr. Kelly working hard for our interests, backed by Mr. Wm. Swim, whose influence with the Government was also great. It was agreed that the contract should be prepared and entered into at once and the Railway finished in two years. Next day, however, all our bright hopes were dashed to the ground by a telegraphic protest sent by Mr. Adams against any company being allowed to undertake the work. This was followed by a petition signed by R. R. Call as President. I have neither the telegram nor the petition, but I shall not soon forget their reception in Fredericton; and, I tell you, they were not unwelcome to the Government, whose members, with exception of Mr. Kelly, were none too anxious to go into the contract that was being forced upon them, for they knew the ample ability of Mr. Gibson for the undertaking. I say I have not the telegram or petition referred to, but I have a document of more recent date. It is a petition—a valentine—for it is dated Newcastle, February 14th, 1882—only four months ago, and from it we will prove whether Mr. Call or any other member of the Valley Railway Company ever endeavored to prevent the Valley road from being built. I will not read the whole of it, as it is quite a long affair, but such parts as are necessary to sustain my position,—

To His Honor, the Honorable Robert Duncan Wilmot, LL-Governor, etc.

The Petition of *the President* and Directors

The "President and Directors," Mr. Chairman, are Messrs. R. R. Call, Mich'l Adams, W. A. Park, Robert Swim, John Sadler and others.

——of the Northern and Western Railway Company, generally called the Miramichi Valley Railway—

Respectfully sheweth,—

That your Petitioners *did*, on or *about the 25th day of February*, 1875, address to the then Lieutenant Governor, the Hon. Samuel L Tilley and Council a *petition* a copy of which marked, *A*, is hereto annexed.

That said petition notified His Honor and Council that a County meeting was held,—

When was this *County* meeting held?

——Directors appointed, and at a subsequent meeting the Board unanimously decided to have a survey of said road.

The petition goes on to say that the Board of Directors had "*heard certain offers* were made to the Government under the Railway Facility Act of 1874" and proceeds as follows,—

That the Board of Directors then requested His Honor and Council *not to entertain any proposition, nor enter into any contract with any other Company* until a survey and estimates were made, when such Company would make a proposition to the then Government. * * *

That as by the said Petition the Company protested against any action being taken by the Government until such time as the surveys were made and an opportunity afforded the Company to arrive at some determination, etc.

Need I read any more to show how well prepared I was to meet Mr. Adams' bold defiance, and is it any wonder that I could not get a hearing from his friends in Newcastle. With the knowledge of the facts I have stated and of the existence of this petition—copied from the fyles of the House by Mr. Willis of St. John—what do you think of the challenge of Mr. Adams for me to produce a letter, telegram or petition showing that either he or Mr. Call or any of the Directors ever petitioned the Government not to make a contract with any other person or Company for the construction of the Miramichi Valley Railway. Judge between the ADVANCE and myself and these gentlemen by the evidence I give you.

But we were told not long since that these gentlemen—these Delegates and Directors—were in treaty with Mr. Gibson to build the Road and that he had offered to undertake the work, provided legislation were secured by which the $3,000 subsidy might be deposited by the Government with some banking or other established concern, as security for interest on $8,000 or $10,000 per mile for eight or ten years. Such an Act was passed and the Surveyor General has endeavored to deceive certain people on the south side of the Miramichi by means of it. You know that he deliberately and by aid of the Government majority in the House cut off the parishes of Chatham and Nelson from having the terminus of the Valley Railway in either of them. This caused considerable feeling, for everybody who understands the subject knows that the Valley Road, with its probable through connections to the Upper Provinces and United States, will be a great rival of the Intercolonial for North Shore traffic, and it should therefore cross the latter at Chatham Junction, instead of being brought to the Intercolonial at a point where its traffic can go neither way, save by leave of the I. C. R. authorities. To meet this objection, Mr. Adams says,—"It is true that I cut Nelson and Chatham out of one Act to please Newcastle, but you'll find, in the other Act, by which Mr. Gibson is to build the road, that I have put both Chatham and Nelson in." Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, this assertion is a fraud—a gross deception. I have here a copy of the Act and it is true it provides that any Government subsidies, bonuses or aid for the construction of a line of Railway from Fredericton by the Miramichi Valley to Chatham, Nelson, Newcastle or Southesk, may be secured as interest on debentures to the amount of $10,000 per mile, as Mr. Gibson is said to have desired, but when you turn to the Subsidies Act of 1882, you will find that Act does not mention Nelson or Chatham, so there will be no subsidy if the road terminates anywhere on the south side of the river. Such fraud and deception are unworthy of any public man, and Mr. Adams ought to be ashamed of making such attempts to deceive his friends.

But, what are these Directors now doing? Are they endeavoring to secure the construction of the road? Certainly not. They desire no such thing. In Chatham and Newcastle, from which intelligence goes out quickly to different parts of the County, they say, "Gibson's going to build the road and we want to give him all our plans, profiles and franchises,"—whatever the latter may mean. Mr. Adams said this in Newcastle on Nomination day; Mr. Call chimed in his assent and Mr. Park reiterated the sentiment. That was intended to go down river. But what does Mr. Director Robert Swim say in Doaktown? He gives the people up there the true purposes of these gentlemen and shows that they don't want Mr. Gibson or any one else to build the road if they can help it. This Director, away up in the country, addressing a recent public meeting, said there were secrets which it did not do to tell everybody, that they expected a subsidy from the Province and one from the Dominion and then, what?—they would get the Municipal Council to tax the County for a subsidy, also. Yes, although the whole south side of the Miramichi was cut out of the Act by Mr. Adams, the Municipal Council was to be so manipulated as to tax Nelson, Chatham, Glenelg, Hardwick, Alnwick, and all the other parishes. Is this fair? Is it behaving in good faith with the public? No! it is of a piece with the whole course of these gentlemen in this important matter and of a piece with the obstruction policy by which they have prevented the Valley Railway from being now finished and in operation.

It is evident that Mr. Adams played into the hands of his co-directors, instead of honestly and earnestly endeavoring to obtain justice for us last winter in the matter of this railway. He ought to have gone to his colleagues in the Government and shown them that Northumberland was contributing $58,000, or one half of the stumpage revenue of the Province and urged her claims on that ground. He should, have said. Gentlemen, you are going to give $50,000 to a dry dock to St. John which pays only some $3,000 in stumpage; you are going to give $50,000 for a bridge over the St. John in York County, which pays but $600 stumpage, you gave the lands of York, Carleton and Victoria for the construction of a railway through those counties—York which pays but $600, Carleton, with its contribution of $400 and Victoria with its $2,000. You must give me the same aid for Northumberland's Railway as you have given for others. If you cannot give us money you must give us our lands, as you did York, Carleton and Victoria. Had he made these demands and failed, and resigned his seat in the Government on that issue, he would have stood much better in the County than he does to-day. As it is, his course has given another serious check to our prospects, for securing the Railway.

I have thus placed before you my justification of the position the ADVANCE has taken in reference to this most important matter, and I leave it to you to say whether I have not done my duty as between the public and those who are mismanaging this great public interest. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen I know that it is late and I will only say, further, that I have not occupied this platform to-night of my own seeking, but I am not the first journalist who has been obliged to thus defend himself against the attacks of corrupt politicians. I stand here to-night not simply as D. G. Smith, who has been so maligned by the Surveyor-General of the Province, but as a journalist defending the rights and liberties of the press. The course which the Surveyor-General has thought proper to pursue towards my paper and myself during the present canvass, plainly indicates that he and his friends have determined that they shall work their designs upon the public unchecked, and that by a policy of abuse and terrorism they shall deter any independent newspaper from standing between them and their abuse of public interests. It is your duty, gentlemen, to say the ADVANCE, or any other paper, shall not be thus stamped out, because if you allow the Surveyor-General to effect his evident purpose, you will thereby shut out one of the most effective lights which shine upon the dark ways of political corruptionists. In the name of a free and enlightened press, therefore, I thank you for the hearing you have given me, and leave my defence with you.

[Mr. Smith's speech was frequently applauded and the close was marked with the most gratifying demonstrations of approval.]

MR. TWEEDIE.

Mr. Tweedie's friends called for him and he came forward and expressed his pleasure that free speech was possible here, though there had been a time when it was not so. What paper had first introduced discord into Chatham?

Mr. Frank Cassidy,—The *Star*!

Mr. Tweedie said the *Star* had gone down and so had Mr. Cassidy's star.—(Cheers.) Mr. Smith was inconsistent because he condemned the sale of the lands to Miller and did not object when the Government gave lands as a subsidy to the Riviere du Loup Railway.

Mr. Smith,—Have I not said Mr. Adams should have demanded money or lands?

Mr. Tweedie next argued that the present Government was a new one entirely and not responsible for any previous policy and told an old and very good story in illustration.

We had the Normal School as a result of this Government's management, also the new Parliament Buildings and he would say, for the benefit of his friend, Cassidy, we had also the new lunatic asylum wing. (Great applause near the door.) He affirmed the doctrine as stated by Mr. Troy in reference to educational management as he had propounded it in Newcastle. [We are glad Mr. Tweedie borrows this from the ADVANCE, though he does not acknowledge it.] A larger subsidy could not be got for the Miramichi Valley Railway: Smith had done his duty as a legislative reported efficiently, but he ought to have furnished the books to the Government. Smith had robbed the Province.

Mr. Smith,—He must talk like a blackguard. He's been sent here to dirty this meeting.

Mr. Tweedie now haunched up his shoulders and made wry faces and referred away back to the book of Genesis, misquoting the original and saying there were some men, who, like the serpent, must crawl on their bellies in the dust and eat dirt. [This was another and offensive way of putting Mr. Smith's mud pie references to Messrs. Tweedie & Co's little paper.] He then went into a tirade of third rate abuse, saying the ADVANCE had referred to him as "a Paul Pry Pettifogger," and had abused his friend the Honorable Michael Adams, Surveyor General of this Province. (Applause.)

Mr. Smith here amused himself by interrupting Mr. Tweedie, which, however, did not seem to calm that gentleman's excited feelings and he proceeded to say Mr. Smith had declared in his paper that Mr. Adams was no Catholic and no christian. [Possibly he did and he had excellent authority for the assertion.] The ADVANCE had invaded the home of Mr. Adams when death was there.

Mr. Smith.—And a tombstone in the *Star*.

Mr. Tweedie enlarged on this episode, as if his own fellings were very much lacerated over it and did the part very cleverly, winding up by suddenly coming out of the pathetic mood and proclaiming Mr. Smith a scoundrel and a "respectable" blackguard. Seeming to realise, however, that he had acted very foolishly, he reiterated a hope he had already expressed, that the feelings engendered by the political contest would be forgotten when the campaign was over, so that those who had been so wicked against each other might meet with good feelings as they did in old times here, no matter what their political differences might be.

Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM. - - - JUNE 29, 1882.

The Dominion Elections.

As stated last week, the Conservatives have won the victory in the Dominion elections. On the whole, the Liberals have gained ground, but the gains have been far from sufficient to defeat their opponents in Parliament, where, for all practical purposes, they are as strong as ever. New Brunswick has lost a very able representative in Hon. Mr. Anglin, whose defeat is undoubtedly due to the combined efforts of two of the strongest business concerns of Gloucester, one of which has, for some time, been also a political organization in which strength and corruption contended for the mastery. It is, not, therefore, surprising that a man of Mr. Anglin's high character—one who would neither make false promises nor offer bribes to the electors—should suffer in a contest against such opponents. It is a matter of great regret and not an augury of progress and honest administration of public affairs in that County, that an alliance has been formed between two such political factions as those which were combined for Mr. Anglin's defeat. It was also natural that wholesale bribery and other corrupt practices should be the outcome of that fusion—practices which we fear were most openly and extensively resorted to in behalf of the successful candidate. Gloucester has parted with the distinction of being represented by one of the ablest statesmen of Canada—a public man who is a credit to the Dominion and to the important body which he especially and ably represented.

Mr. Haddow's defeat is a considerable loss to the Liberals, and especially to the County of Restigouche, which he so faithfully and efficiently served, and the same may be said of Sir Albert J. Smith of Westmorland, whose fine abilities were not, however, exercised at all necessary times. Among the prominent Liberals defeated in the Upper Provinces are Sir Richard Cartwright and Mr. Huntington. On the other side, Mr. Plumb, the Conservative "hurdy-gurdy" and a number of other "Liberal-Conservatives" lost their seats.

In St. John City, where local and Dominion politics were treated as one issue there was a very animated fight. Geo. McLeod, Esq., who, at considerable personal sacrifice, opposed Sir Leonard Tilley, was beaten by 137 votes, while Sir Leonard's lieutenants who ran for the County—Messrs. Tuck and Everett—were beaten handsomely by Messrs. Burpee and Weldon whose majorities were 534 and 300 respectively. It is worthy of note that in the two contests—Dominion and Local—the Liberals and Conservatives each had nine candidates in the field for the City and County of St. John. The Liberals elected seven of their men, while the Conservatives elected but two of theirs, proving the soundness of political sentiment prevailing in the great commercial and intellectual centre of the Province.

The Liberal gains in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island more than made up for the losses in New Brunswick, while Ontario also returned a greater number of Liberals than she had in the last House. In Quebec, however, the Conservatives gained a few seats, thus neutralising, to some extent, the general gain in all the other Provinces. A fair estimate gives the Government a majority in the Commons of about fifteen less than it went to the country with—or sixty-five instead of eighty.—The result establishes the fact that the Maritime Provinces are opposed to the National Policy, while Ontario and Quebec are in favor of it. A more than usual amount of bribery and corruption was practiced all over the country and it is a remarkable fact that although there is a Conservative majority from Ontario of about a dozen members, yet there were about two thousand more Liberal than Conservative votes polled. This result was brought about by the scandalous gerrymandering bill, by which large bodies of Liberal electors were thrown together—the Liberal majorities, in some constituencies, being as high as a thousand and fifteen hundred.

The Provincial Government.

Whatever may be the pretences of members of the Provincial Government in reference to the support they expect in the new House of Assembly, it is evident to those sufficiently acquainted with the situation to enable them to judge correctly, that the Opposition led by Mr. Blair is the strongest in numbers as well as in its claims to assume the reins of Government. Not only is the reconstructed Government in an evident minority, but it has against it the representatives—all but one—of the City and County of St. John. The new Attorney-General who represents St. John, is an untried man in practical politics, having never before been in the Legislature, while the Leader of the Government possesses few of the qualities which fit a man for such a position. Mr. Hanington is an excellent member in opposition, being a good debater, plucky and impetuous, but he lacks the prudence and disinterestedness which are essentials in a leader of Government. The Provincial Secretary—Mr. Landry—is the best man in the Government, the next best, Mr. Crawford, being in poor health and, therefore, not fully able to sustain the position he holds. Mr. Colter of the Works Department is a respectable man, but is not a very profound thinker,