OTTAWA LETTER.

Restricting the Importation of Alien Labor.

Swinging the Axe at Bidding of Heelers.

Even Suspicion of Having Conservative Leanings Means Dismissal from Office

While Civil Servants Who Stump for the Machine, to the Neglect of Their Official Duties. Are Richly Rewarded.

OTTAWA, April 3.—The opposition had considerably better of the argument yesterday afternoon in connection with the debate on the government measure introduced by Sir Wilfrid Laurier to amend the act restrict ing the importation of alien labor. Early in the session several bills were laid before the house in regard to this matter, and a lengthy discussion took place as to the best means of enforc-ing regulations which would have the effect of protecting Canadian work-men and Canadian interests. It was own that there was every need for ment, and the premier promised to introduce a bill which would meet the Yesterday it came up for its sec and reading, and went before the Sir Wilfrid fully explained the provisions of the act and pointed out that views of manufacturers who now em-ploy considerable alien labor in cerbranches, as well as those of labor unions. The labor unions, the labor unions. The labor unions, according to the premier, had been interviewed and had passed upon the teatures of the act, but later it was admitted that the bill had never really been placed in a formal way before

The principal feature of the bill the clause which sets forth the method of procedure that shall be adopted in cases where violations are suspected. At present the Canadian law is so cumbersome that it is almost impossible for a private individual to enter a complaint for any breach of it. It requires the plaintiff to first obtain the consent of the attorney general of Canada to bring on his case, and then it must be tried in a superior court. This latter provision, owing to the excessive cost involved, makes it almost impossible to obtain justice in a large province, where the complainant has to carry his cause to the capital town or await the regular makes it almost impossible to obtain justice in a large province, where the complainant has to carry his cause to the capital town or await the regular sitting of the sessional court in his own district. In cases where a con-tractor comes from the United States and engages large numbers of Amerifore action could be taken in his case.
What is wanted is a law under which justice swift and sure can be meted out, and with a law in Canada similar

Sir Wilfrid's bill provides that in cases of a violation, the plaintiff, instead of appealing to the attorney general of Canada for permission to commence action, shall obtain the written consent of the attorney general of the province in which the offence was committed, or a written consent of any judge of the court in which the proposed action is intended to be brought. The penalty fixed for a violation of the law is largely left to the discretion of the officiating judge, who may impose a fine not exdie, who may impose a fine not ex eding one thousand dollars hor less an fifty dollars. Under the presen-it the penalty was one thousand dol-rs straight. The premier explained at inasmuch as the sum of one thou-

object of the bill was to have every action involve the collection of one thousand dollars. In all cases the amount of damages to be recovered will be the maximum amount allowed the plaintiff, but if the judge in his discretion considered that the circumstances warranted it, he might fix the penalty at any sum above fifty dollars and up to one thousand dollars.

E. F. Clark, Toronto West, who has taken a deep interest in the alien labor law, opposed one part of the bill which necessitated the plaintiff appearing before a superior court in order to dispose of his case. Mr. Clark sees in such a proposition the death-blow of any bill that might become law. His experience of the present act is that, because of the cumbersome machinery attached to it, it is unworkable in almost every instance. He asked the premier to simplify the procedure as far as it was possible to do so, in order that violations might be quickly taken up and disposed of. Mr. Clark's idea is to have the complaint lodged with a stipendiary magistrate, who in turn will pronounce on its merits and refer it to a court of com-Mr. Clark had the support of Au-lay Morrison of New Westminster and Mr. McCreary of Selicity. Both these gentlemen are from the west and are tency to decide. In this contentio strong supporters of the government. They have had considerable experience in the alien labor law, owing to the fact that large numbers of foreign workmen are continually crossing from the United States to the districts in which they live, to the disadvantage of the Canadian residents. Mr. McCreary showed that in the province of the disadvantage of the Canadian residents. Manitoba considerable dissatisfaction existed, and he wanted to see prop legislation put in force to meet the conditions which are arising from time to time. One important suggestion he made was to the effect that the law should provide machinery for deporting allens whenever and wherever formed to be a superior of the council to be a superior or to be a su found to be employed contrary to law. He suggested that the Canadian law should be modelled after that now in force in the United States, and showed that the regulations adopted in the country to the south of us were the esult of years of experience. credit the government with good in-tentions, strongly objected to their far as it referred to the province of British Columbia. He submitted that was a farce, because in no instance had the appointees enforced the law. United States residents were allowed to come into Canadian waters in large to come into Canadian waters in large rafts for the fishing season, and were then permitted to return home taking with them wealth which should have been the portion of the people of this country, and leaving little or nothing behind them. This, he submitted, should be stopped at once, and the only way to prohibit such methods of doing business was to make the machinery of the law as simple as possible, so that all classes might take advantage of it.

Sir Wilfrid Lawrier met the arguments advanced in favor of resorting to the common courts in such mat-ters, by stating that this mode of proters, by stating that this mode of pro-cedure would be impracticable. He stated that the individual rarely fig-ures in a prosecution of this kind. His experience in the alien labor act is, that any complaints that have been made have come from the labor or-ganizations, who paid all expenses in connection with the cases. But in this nection with the cases. But in this meetion it was very properly sug-sted that the law should be made, not for the exclusive benefit of labor organizations, but in the best interests of the country at large; and it in case they decided to take action individual or company. against any They would have to pay their own ests, and this would be a prohibitory neasure in the majority of cases.

John Charlton of North Norfolk usual he championed the interests of the Michigan lumbermen. Mr. Charl-ton was horrified that such a brutal al as an up-to-date alien labor ion of Canada. He claimed that in the lumber business, competent workmen could not be secured on this side of the border, and that unless mill men were allowed to import such help as they desired the mills would have to they desired the mills would have to be closed down. According to Mr. Chariton, we have a very inferior class of artisans and laborers in this Canada of ours. He has a lot of sym-pathy for the men who are wealthy and are making money, but he has no thought of those who are poor and who need employment and good wages.

men when they could secure cheaper help across the line. It is not Canada that Mr. Charlton thinks of, but his own pocket arri those of his friends. While he advocates this policy of encouraging the importation of American workmen, he is perfectly well aware that on the shores of Lake Michigan resident experts in the lumber business are being driven abroad to seek employment. Mr. Bennett exposed this condition of affairs, and proved that the Canadian workmen are made to suffer by the failure of the government to take some action in their behalf. Out in British Columbia there is a case on record where large numbers of American miners were brought in under contract and then discharged at the mouth of the pit. After loading about for some days they were forced to take positions at greatly reduced wages, and the cut resulted to the disadvantage of the Canadians who were employed there. It meant that the naturalized residents had to accept the reduction or accept their discharge. And this is only one instance where the privileges granted to employers in this country had been abused.

Sir Wilfrid melted under the strong

gestions thrown out. This means that he will further amend the act, so as to make it possible for county judges to have jurisdiction in cases of this

practical proposition of the govern-ment bill, they deserve the gratitude of the workmen of this country.

OTTAWA, April 5.-What is offen sive political partisanship? The ordinary person would incline to the belief that it was an act by a government employe which was damaging to the best interests of good government in the country in which it was performed. The fair minded man would not expect to find political distinctiirawn in cases where offences again the administration were committed, but in Canada this does not apply. At the present time men are being dismissed all over the dominion for simple. ly exercising their political rights in voting for candidates of their choice, and heads are being taken off in every direction in order that positions may be opened up for political heelers, who have colleged the exit candidates to have followed the grit candidates to the last ditch. Chairmen of liberal organizations, who still continue to act in the interests of the party to which they belong, are replacing men of suspected conservative leanings, and would-be members of parliament, defeated at the polls on November 7th, are receiving their reward by ecuring good situations under the indly wing of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and

Since the session opened, numbers of cases have been brought to the attention of the house in which men were dismissed from the government's employ simply because they exercised their privilege and voted on election day. day. In the majority of instances no investigation was held, and the only evidence adduced against those mark-ed for dismissal is that submitted to the different departments by prominent grits, many of whom, were candidates who resented a vote cast against them. Not only has this been done but post offices have been move feel the sin of holding opinions contrary to the men now in power, and that grits might be rewarded for their unfailing support of any candidate that might be placed before them for their support. Such conditions can only lead to the prostitution of re-sponsible government, and a condi-tion of affairs which should be severely condemned in a country where freedom and justice are supposed to be paramount.

while the former class of employes must not presume to have the courage of their convictions, liberals are allowed not only the privilege of voting but of becoming active political worse kers in the grit vineyard. So that it would seem that the definition of political partisanship, as laid down by necessarily against the nation's wel-fare, but against grit interests. Non is it necessary to commit an act of political partisanship, which might in some way affect the standing of a grit candidate. To vote, to express the mildest opinion, or even to give utterance to a thought is sufficient in this "period of rest" to affect a management of the department of the departme interior laid on the table a return the candidate nominated by the grits in that riding last election, but he was defeated by Dr. Roche. At present he occupies a government position and and while he is an officer of the crown, he is also one of the stronges crown, he is also one of the stronges grit workers in the county of which he is a resident. When Mr. Siftor brought in his estimates, early in March, for the consideration of the house, Mr. Thompson's name was prominently mentioned in connection with the last election. It was shown by Mr. Roche that under the relieve advide candidates for several constituencies. These men are employed by the government to inspect the homesteads of the west, or for other purposes, and in the discharge of their duties they are constantly thrown into communication with the settlers of the prairie lands. Their power to put the settlers to more or less inconvenience and their frequent meetings with them, enable the inspectors to become thoroughly acquainted in the ridings in which they discharge their duties. It is unnecessary to state that the appointment of unscrupulous followers means considerable to the government, during election campaigns, and it does not appear from the evidence at hand that any of these inspectors have neglected the duties inspectors have neglected the duties which they consider they owe to their masters. As party organizers they have been an unquestioned success, and, if Mr. Sifton is to be believed. their services will be continued with what he hopes, no doubt, will prove equally profitable results.

case, he was an employe of the do-minion government up to the time he was nominated as the grit candidate was nominated as the grit candidate in Marquette. A few days after he had been tendered the nomination and had accepted it, he handed his resignation to the minister of the interior and the position of homestead inspector in that riding was made vacant. But good care was taken that Mr. Thompson's interests were conserved and that he care was taken that Mr. Thompson's interests were conserved, and that he should suffer nothing by his sacrifice. No appointment was made to the position until after election day, and then Mr. Thompson, having been defeated, was quietly reappointed and walked back again to draw his salary as a dominion government official. Mr. Sifton positively assured Mr. Borden, the leader of the opposition, that the government were entirely innocent of any political feeling in the matter. In any political feeling in the matter. In fact, if the statement of the minister of the interior is to be taken as a isters were aware Mr. Thompson was even to be a candidate. In some mysterious manner he had just slipped out of his job, had been defeated, and had slipped back again. The suggestion of Mr. Borden that Mr. Thompson might have had a string on the job was indignantly denied by the minister of the interior who stated that the interior, who stated that he was opposition first brought this matter up unable to prevent a government offi-



cial from resigning and running as candidate for parliament.

If that was all that could be laid at the door of Mr. Thompson, Mr. Sif-ton's statement might go down with a few people who are easily gulled, but the fact that, during the provincial election in Manitoba, Mr. Thompson was one of the most energetic canvassers in the grit party, shows that Mr. Sifton is not sincere in his statements. Mr. Thompson at that time had not resigned his position and was still in Mr. Sifton's employ. In the north of Manitoba large numbers of Scandinavians had settled, and in order to capture these votes Mr. Thomp son was sent to canvass them. It is fair to assume that Mr. Siften must give his officers permission before they can leave their duties and engage in my other business, and, therefore, we open to suppose, that in Mr. Thompson's case, he knew this gentlenan was absent from his work, and that he was to be engaged in political work But despite this fact he was not even censured for his conduct. It might be explained that Mr. Thompson in this respect was very fortunate as compared with Mr. Cox, his predeessor in office. According to Mr. Sifton, Mr. Cox was a first rate officer and performed his duties to the satisfaction of the department. But in an hour of weakness Mr. Cox wrote a letter to a conservative committee man. in which he stated that if he could be of service to the conservative candidate, without being guilty of offensive palitical partizanship, he would do so. The letter was never replied to, nor was there any evidence to show that Mr. Cox did even what he had promised to do. Nevertheless he was dis-charged and Mr. Thompson was ap-pointed, as a combination homestead inspector and electioneering agent. So

Let us turn to the province of Quebec and consider a motion made in the house yesterday by Mr. Monk, the deputy leader of the conservative party, for a return of copies of all correspondence, telegrams, and messages in the government labor bureau, in connection with the labor atrike at Valleyfield last November. According to Mr. Monk's story, there is ample opportunity afforded here for an inestigation on the part of the govern ment into the conduct of Mr. King, the deputy minister of labor. It seems that the council of Valleyfield is composed almost entirely of liberals, and that an organization, known first as L'Union Liberale and afterwards as L'Union Ouvriere, was farmed, in which were enrolled the werkingmen of Valleyfield. Candidates for admission to the society were compelled to promise support to the liberal candi-dates, and it is even said were compelled to take the oath of allegiance to the grit cause. The secretary of the who prior to the election of November 7th, induced the employes of the Mon treal cotton Mills Co. to strike for higher wages. Fearing trouble. cotton mills people, represented by J. M. Greenshields, demanded military protection, and a force of militiamer were sent from Montreal to protect

Then Mr. King, the deputy minister of labor, was sent down as conciliator factions to terms. According to in-structions conveyed to Mr. King un-der a law passed last session, 63-64 Vic., chap. 24, section 5, "It shall be the duty of the conciliator to promote conditions favorable to a settlement by endeavoring to allay distrust, to remove cause of friction, to promote good feeling, to restore confidence, and to encourage the parties to come together and themselves effect a settlement, and also to promote agreements
between employers and employes with
a view to the submission of
differences to conciliation and
arbitration before resorting to strikes
or lockouts."

But Mr. King did not do this. He met the leading people of Valleyfield and told them the government were prepared to do a good deal for the

success of the strike, but it was all important that they should support Mr. Loy, who was the liberal candidate. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Mr. Tarte and Mr. Sutherland all made vigorous de-fences on behalf of Mr. King and charged Mr. Monk with maliciously endeavoring to injure the young man, out the very indignation of these gentlemen led Mr. Monk to reply, that his belief was strengthened instead of lessened by the excitement displayed. He has been in the house for a number of years, and is well aware that a hot-headed repudiation by members of the government generally means that there is something in the charge that they are endeavoring to refute. And Mr. Monk promised, further, to subthat he said was correct, or, in the event of his failing to do so, he would be the first to retract and do justice visit was that the day after Mr. Loy was elected, nothing further was heard of the Valleyfield strike, or nothing has been heard of it since. Mr. Puttee and Mr. Smith, both labor represent-atives, and liberals, concurred in what Mr. Monk had charged in respect to the desertion of the strikers as soon as the election was over and they both expressed themselves as being dissatisfied with the outcome. They claimed that the labor bureau had acted in a shabby manner towards the men of Valleyfield, and that no serithe men to whom so much had been

And so it is with almost every promise that the government makes. The

Valleyfield was, according to Mr. Monk, that of electing Mr. Loy and defeating Mr. Bergeron. Mr. Bergeron, in 1896, had a majority of 105, while in November last, he was snowed under in the same section by an adverse yote of 312. Mr. Monk believes that vote of 312. Mr. Monk believes that the movement was got up, to a very large extent, for the purpose of favoring the candidate of Mr. Tarte in the riding of Beauhamolis. Mr. Tarte had an invitation to go there and run, but declined to do so. "The information," said Mr. Monk, "T have given to the house, as briefly as possible, has been given by reliable people. If this statement as to the state of affairs is true, it is clear that the conduct of the party I have named in connection with the matter is much to be condemned. I submit also that it goes a long way I submit also that it goes a los to maintain the claim which has been put forth by several parties at Valley-field, that this strike; and what subsequently happened, was organized solely and purely for political pur-

Is this not a disgraceful condition of affairs? Should not the fact that even the workingman is not free from being made a tool of corrupt politiclans, cause all respectable mechanics in this country to stop and consider the cheapness in which they are held by the government? That men should be taken out of a factory, induced to risk their positions, to lose their wages, and ultimately be neglected, to serve nolitical numbers seems almost in political purposes, seems almost in-oredible. But affidavits supporting this charge will be filed and the man who earns his bread by the sweat of his face will see that in the present administration there is much to be con-

J. D. McKENNA.

Children Cry for CASTORIA WILL REMEMBER

THE MAINE

Romance on S. S. State of Maine on Her Maiden Trip This

A Former St. John Man and a Boston Maiden Fall in-Love and Are Married During the Passage.

The S. S. State of Maine came state y up the harbor Wednesday morning, radiant in a brand new costume of showy paint and flying bunting from every part of her rigging to which it

Of course it was her first trip of the season, and she had been fitted up until she was practically a new boat. She had also a new and popular captain, and her unwonted galety of ap-parel might have been assumed on

these accounts.
Such indeed was the reason an nounced, but there were two happy hearts among the passengers which knew what the bunting signified for them and knew also that all the colored flags in America would be inadequate for the purpose.

down was the stage for the enacting of as pretty a three act romance as has ever been presented to the intruding gaze of an unromantic public. Among those who boarded the boat at Boston were James Dugan, formerly of St. John, and a Miss Montgomery. ecured separate staterooms and for the first part of the trip their actions excited no comment. So when the boat arrived at Portland their announcement that they were going ashore to be married caused general surprise. Those on the steamer did not know whether the couple had been previously acquainted or not, but "if had been very short, as the man in the question insinuated that it was an old fashioned case of love at first sight. At any rate they went on shore at Portland with the intention of coming back as one, but the naughty deity who interferes with he course of true love so managed it that a license could not be obtained before the boat left, and they re-turned with their purpose unaccomp-lished.

After leaving Portland, a search revealed a ciergyman on the passenger list, but the hopes of the anxious couple were again dashed by the fact that he was a Canadian and could not perform the ceremony until after the line was crossed. It was death, at Eastport, where it was ascertained that the steamer would remain nearly twelve hours, the much-dis-turbed bridegroom elect gritted his teeth and started ashore. A short time later word came back to the blushing bride that all had been arparel, she left the boat, accomp by Baggage Master Wm. Healy, was to officiate as best man. time nothing interfered and the cere-mony was happily performed by Magistrate Dr. Small, to the bliss of the persevering couple and the great delight of all the officials on the boat who had taken almost as much inter After arriving in the city, Mr. and Mrs. Dugan proceeded around by the I. C. R. to Bear River, the former home of the bride, where a brief

eymoon will be spent. "How's that for the first trip of the new State of Maine?" said one of the officers to a Sun reporter last night. "If you've any unmarried females in St. John, send 'em along, and we'll give 'em their pick of the best."





It Johnston.

Predericton, N.B., Dec. 15th, 1899.
Having used SURPRISE SOAP for the past ten years, I find it: the best soap that I have ever had in my house and would not use any other when I can get SURPRISE. Mrs: T. Henry Troup.

I have to wash for three brothers that work, on the sailroad, and SURPRISE SOAP is the only soap to use. We tried every other kind of soap, and I tell everybody why our overalls have such a good color.

Mandie Logan. Can't get wife to use any other soap ays SUAPRISE is the best. Chas. C. Hughes. SURPRISE is a pure hard SOAP.

POWELL IS AVENGED.

THE DESIGNATION OF THE PARTY OF

(Montreal Gazette, 5th.)

Rufus H. Pope, M. P., was at the 7indsor yesterday, en route for Cookshire, after having spent some time at the seat of government. In an interview the member for Compton spoke with a great deal of interest regarding the present members of the house of commons. With one or two exceptions.

Mr. Pope remarked, the losses to the debating power of the conservative party had occurred in the lower provinces, mentioning Sir Charles Tupper, Hon. Geo. E. Foster and Mr. Powell, of Westmorland. He had the highest opinion, however, of the present con-servative deputation from the great province of Ontario. Mr. Pope says it comprises some of the best business men of the country and the represent-atives of the Queen city are men of whom any community should be-

Continuing, Mr. Pope said that, although there were more liberals from the lower provinces than in the last parliament, he could not see any men who could well replace those whom the fortunes of politics had left behind. A good deal was expected of Mr. Emmer-son. who defeated Mr. Powell in West-morland, but that gentleman was not 2 ccess the other evening on the coronation oath debate and it is not at all likely that he will ever again repeat the exceedingly hazardous attempt to-lecture the Canadian House of Com-mons. "Yes, indeed," he added, "Mr. owell was certainly avenged."
"And your new leader?"

MR. BORDEN THE LEADER.

"Mr. Borden is growing as a leader all the time and those who hear him speak or meet him in private interview are delighted with the leader of the opposition. His speech on the had

kindly manner in which the Ontario members have greeted Mr. Monk as Mr. Borden's lieutenant, but he says this is not surprising for in past years when French conservatives have met-and fraternized with the representaand fraternized with the representatives of the same party in the English speaking provinces, most lasting and sincere friendship has been the result. He likewise related a pleasant incident the other day when the Jacques Cartier market gardeners, all of whom were French-Canadians interviewed the government and were so strongly supported in their demands for more protection by Clarke Wallace and others, "Who was the lame man who spoke up so strongly for us?" they asked Mr. Monk.

CLARKE WALLACE THE MAN. "That was Clarke Wailace," replied the member for Jacques Cartier with

the member for Jacques Cartier with a smile.

"What, the famous Orangeman of whom we have heard so much?" and it is safe to say that hereafter these French farmers will shrug their shoulders when next they read of the "sanguinary" Grand Sovereign of British North America. "And this is what we want," declared Mr. Pope, "for if you can only get our people to know each other, all these vexed quetions of race and creed will forever disappear from the political arena."

Then he took up the question of an increased indemnity, stating that the government should have the courage of their convictions if they have got any, and take the responsibility of any change they consider it advisable to make. Mr. Pope says Canada's federal legislators are the most poorly paid of any of the same class in the world. At Quebec, the deputies get \$800, and in Australia the nembers receive £400, or equal to \$2,000:

ceive £400, or equal to \$2,000:

MANY FAVOR INCREASES.

There are men on both sides of the house, Mr. Pope added, who believe the members of the house of commons should be paid \$2,000, but it is so delicate a matter that they will not advocate such an increase on the floor of parliament. He filtewise stated that it seemed to him to be most inconsistent for a member to vute against the increase, and then take it with the rest, should such an increase be adopted by the house. Here he said there will be no business of importance transacted this session, and the members will have at least put in three months and a half. MANY FAVOR INCREASES. months and a half.

"Are you in favor of increasing the salary of ministers?" Mr. Pope was

"No, I am not, but perhaps \$15,000 for the prime minister could be justified, and I also believe the country should deal handsomely with the leader of the opposition. His position is much more important than several of the portfolios, and with our system of provenment. government, a well organized opposi-tion is quite as essential as the governLOCAL L No More Non ing at Prov

Exception Made John City and

House Prorogued on Wednesday-Pass an Addre Majesty K

PREDERICTO

authorizing the cil to grant aid Sons Co., Ltd., an pany from taxati The bill in am Brunswick election ed. It provides the time of tende ciled within the which he votes, son who under would have been spect of real est St. John and such of the city, or in being a resident would have been real estate in the titled to vote.

introduced in resp trend of public or ment to the bill n that persons resid province and post here may be allow actment of the b with a large properties of the political particular par ly guilty, and he house was unaning the principle of the to the provision there might be o Yeyor general, who Co., had urged up the fact that reside large property inte John is entirely that in any other Mr. Shaw could

the surveyor ger trust the people in stanced that in the from St. John swamp the vote could see no reason Mr. Hazen said advanced why the other for the city, separate and distir ties of York and ent legislation wa St. John than in ency, for there which at every swamps the coun Hon. Mr. Dunn

in the county sho after the people of ed four representa selection of the co He moved that the Hon. Mr. Tweed bill should be allow drafted. If the sector work well it cou

Mr. Hazen argue ment of the people the province and of favor of the princi believed that all w in favor of the r city, where the vo and organizations trols and swamps the parishes.
Mr. Shaw's amend
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Mr. Copp moved the effect that a province who own in that constitu perty is situated, amendment chiefly large number of Westmorland Co.

Westmorland Co.
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The amendment
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The remaining of tions bill were ag House went into bill to amend 54th and 45th Victoria, Hon. Mr. Pugsley bill had a three-to the subsidy for a li Shediac Village to Village, not excess length; also a rai station towards ceed 10 miles in 16 railway from a point cis branch of the way to the Quebec in length. This is the line of railway means of the Quebonect with the Gree ing a continuous r This line of railway would have an out Mr. Laforest obje

to the line from the on the ground that Temiscouata railwa a parallel road and en the distance to Hon. Mr. Pugsle to enable any town