

to do so because I do not do so." Inasmuch as he (Mr. Macdougall) regarded that gentleman's vast ability, his great statesmanship, and his wonderful knowledge, he felt inclined to obey him, but he felt that he had a duty to perform; he was standing in this House as the representative of the people, and felt that he ought to make himself heard, notwithstanding the powerful dictum of the hon. member for Niagara, who had decided otherwise. Now, he maintained, they had a right to appeal to the gentlemen on that Committee, and, if not satisfied, they might appeal to this House. They had a right to do so, and he submitted that the hon. gentleman, who sometimes took one view and sometimes the other, had no right to say that his (Mr. Macdougall's) colleague and himself, and those who sympathized with them, should not be heard by this Committee. He would not say an insinuation, because that was an unparliamentary term, but something like it had been thrown out that they were there for the purpose of taking up the time of this Committee, and not for advancing the public interest. They believed that they were advancing the public interest, and they protested against it being said that they were here for the purpose of hampering this railway scheme. He would appeal to the hon. gentlemen who had been on the Standing Committee on Railways, as well as the sub-Committee, that they did not wish to embarrass the Railway Company or to hamper them. They stated their case clearly and plainly, and they asked that, inasmuch as the Railway Company was coming to this Parliament for the purpose of asking the Parliament to do equity to it, Parliament themselves should take this opportunity of seeing that the complaints, the grievances, the wishes and requests of the people should be made known. They had endeavoured, in their humble way, for, of course, they could not hope to do it so eloquently and succinctly as the hon. member for Niagara would, to put their views before the Committee; and, notwithstanding that hon. member might veer about and change his opinions, they were determined to maintain their opinions to the end. There was no

foundation for the statement that they objected to this company as an American concern, and he did not wish the minds of the Committee to be prejudiced by the statement to this effect. Upon all occasions his desire was to invite and bring in every possible way all the capital they could into the country, no matter where it came from; but, at the same time, the rights of our own people should be properly secured and no undue advantage given to a body of people, no matter whether they were Canadians or belonged to another country. He did think the lecture given to them by the hon. member for Niagara (Mr. Plumb) was out of place. The treatment he had given them was not the treatment he had received from him (Mr. Macdougall). He was told by the hon. member that, because this matter had been discussed before by some four or five members of the Committee, they had no right to appeal against their decision. This was the sense of justice the hon. member for Niagara had. His ability was vast, his knowledge was great, according to his (Mr. Plumb) own estimate, if they took that as a gauge, but he thought there was probably a little for him to learn yet, that there was something more to add to his philosophy, great though it might be. He moved that the following section be inserted between the second section and the third:

"That no Bond, Coupon, Debenture, Mortgage or other security which has been, or shall be issued by the Company shall, by reason of any lien, charge, incumbrance or preferential claim on the revenue, assets or property of the Company of any kind or nature whatsoever, be held or construed to prevent a judgment or decree against the property of the Company for a debt incurred for working expenses as hereinbefore defined, from being enforced by execution. Provided that no actual levy shall be made by virtue of such execution without an order or certificate being made by a Judge of the Court in which such judgment or decree has been obtained, stating that in his opinion proceedings upon such execution shall not stop the traffic of the Company."

Now, the hon. member for Niagara and the supporters of the Bill objected to a lien for wages, etc., on the stock of the company, their argument being that it might stop the progress of trade and interfere with the working of the