

as a Presbyterian, as to the doctrine of election: "You can and you cannot; you shall and you shall not; and you'll be damned if you do not." (Laughter.) Whether the system of cold storage is kept on, the whole responsibility is to be thrown upon my hon. friend Mr. Fisher and the Government of which I am a member. I sympathize with you a good deal, and am glad to observe there are many recruits added to the band of workers, of which I was one for 18 years. I contended here against steamer subsidies for years. I have always felt that the steamboat subsidies were an absolute mistake, and a positive injury to the people who have to export apples from this part of Canada. I am a member of the Government which is continuing a policy in which I expressed myself in times gone by. As I said yesterday, I say to-day. I consider the interests of my county, and of the Province, and of course of the great Dominion at large, would be better served by me remaining in the Government, notwithstanding the fact that I differ from my colleagues—because I can fight the battles there, of my friends, rather than make it a question to resign and retire from the administration. And that is why I remain in the Government. I have stated it in the past, that I believe we would be better off if we left the trade of Halifax and the trade of St. John to the competition of the different steamboat lines. And I will say furthermore, and I do not think my position is an untenable one, I am prepared to use the best influence I possess to withdraw from those lines those subsidies. I am happy to know—and I have been told by the representatives of two lines—that they would rather be without the subsidies than with them. Speaking of the steamship lines, I regret that an agent of one of the lines is not here. I say publicly and openly, I consider it to be a rather suspicious thing that that line, with the agent of which I have had conversations and correspondence since last autumn, has withheld from me the rates which they charge from Halifax, for the fruit conveyed from Halifax to London. I was promised no later than Sunday last by a gentleman representing an important line at Halifax, that he would attend the meeting at Kentville and be here to-day. He may be here. I hope he is. If he is not here, I have only to say that he has not placed in my hand what he promised to place in my