

it has taken. (Opposition cheers.) I am surprised at the course pursued by the honorable gentleman in appealing to Conservative authority. Now what Sir William Meredith says was read by my honorable friend, and he is welcome to all the comfort he can get out of it. Sir William Meredith evidently had in mind the plebiscite which has been enacted, and which has been voted on, and he spoke his mind with reference to the large majority of the people who ought to endorse and support any law of this kind, but did Sir William Meredith say that the Government of the Province of Ontario should run away from their responsibility? (Hear, hear.) Did he say a law should be introduced and passed in this House and then turned over to the people to vote upon it again?

Hon. Mr. Ross—Yes.

Mr. Whitney—He said nothing of the kind.

Hon. G. W. Ross—Yes. (Reads): "If it shall be determined that there is jurisdiction in the Local Legislature to deal with this question of the liquor traffic, then it will be the duty of any Government which is in power in Ontario to bring in a bill and pass it for the purpose of bringing into effect what has been determined to be within the jurisdiction of the Legislature. It seems to me that any such law as that should be an effective law, and should have no results that would be disastrous to the interests of temperance throughout the country, and therefore I think it would be decidedly in the interests of the whole community that any measure such as that, before it should become law, should be again submitted to the people in order that they should have an opportunity of pronouncing yea and nay upon it."

Mr. Whitney—Just as I said. (Opposition laughter.)

(Mr. Ross rose to make a remark): If my honorable friend will be contented, there is an old Burmese proverb which says that the ass, though weary, carries its burden.

Hon. Mr. Ross—On which side of the House is that inoffensive member? (Government laughter.)

Mr. Whitney—I do not apply it to him in any offensive sense, but I am not going to quarrel with him if he shall apply it. If he will just allow me to go on, because I am going on (Opposition cheers), I can make every possible allowance for the hon. gentleman who has been under the harrow, so to speak, who has been roasted (Opposition cheers) for the last two months of his life by night and by day, who, as soon as he has become released for a moment from the importunities and threats of the liquor men, has found himself face to face with the determined attitude of the men whose principles he has betrayed in this province, therefore, I say, sir, I can make every allowance for my honorable friend, and were it not for the fact that I am afraid he would not accept it, I would offer him my pity. (Opposition laughter.) Sir Wm. Meredith did not say what the honorable gentleman contends he said. Is there one word in Sir Wm. Meredith's speech of a referendum loaded so as to kill the bill? (Opposition cheers.) Is there one word in his address that it shall be submitted to the people? Who that knows the bold and chivalric course always pursued by that honorable gentleman would doubt for one instant that he would have spurned from him with contumely any attempt or suggestion that he should handicap the people with regard to a vote which he might or might not consider necessary on that question? (Opposition applause.)

#### BOURINOT'S TESTIMONY.

Now, however, my honorable friend dealt with Sir John Bourinot. There was a peculiarity if honorable gentlemen will notice it, a peculiarity all