

that the support which they found it necessary to buy might be purchased and paid for! Will the electors of Nova Scotia vote to perpetuate the existence of a Government like this?

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### THE \$6,710.94.

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In the Journals of the House of Assembly for 1870 (*App'x No. 18. p. 19*) appears the following entry of a payment made by the Local Government in the preceeding year: "ROBT. BOAK, Jr., to pay people's delegate's expenses to England, \$6,710.94." No authority whatever had been granted by Parliament for any such payment, and the appearance of such a disbursement naturally excited considerable feeling and discussion. Upon explanations being demanded from the Government it was at first stated that several gentlemen in Halifax having subscribed money to defray the expenses of the so-called "People's delegation," in 1876, this money had been paid by the Government to recoup them. This explanation, even if true, was far from satisfactory. It did not excuse the payment without authority of Parliament, and it established a most dangerous precedent which future administrations might use to the great loss of the Province. But even this explanation was soon found to be a falsehood. Hon. Senator Northup, Hon. W. J. Stairs, Judge Marshall, Mr. Seeton, and others who had been among the largest subscribers to that fund, at once came forward and positively denied that any portion of the money had been appropriated to the purposes for which it was ostensibly drawn, and that the subscribers who had borne the expenses of the "people's delegates" had never been recouped to the extent of a dollar. It was thus made apparent that the money, in ad-

dition to be illegally drawn, HAD BEEN DRAWN UPON FALSE PRETEXTS!! This discovery led to further investigation and inquiry, and it was ascertained that the money had actually been paid to a Grit Political League in this city, and had been used by them in hounding to death the Hon. Joseph Howe in his election in 1869! Thus it was established beyond question that this large sum of money had been illegally and dishonestly abstracted from the Treasury, and corruptly expended in attempting to defeat one of the greatest statesmen this Province ever produced. No more scandalous transaction was ever unearthed in this country. It was simply barefaced plundering of the Treasury combined with corruption and the basest ingratitude. In the House of Assembly in 1871 (*Debates 1871, p. 202*) Mr. P. C. Hill the present nominal leader of the Government said in reference to this affair:—"I maintain that the Government were guilty of a great wrong in the whole of that transaction. In the first place the entry in the public accounts was not a truthful one: the entry says paid to Robert Boak, Jr., to pay the expenses of the people's delegation. Now, a great number of those who contributed to these expenses—Mr. Stairs, Mr. Northup, Mr. Seeton, Judge Marshall, and others, have stated publicly that they never received any part of that money. Again, the money was taken without the vote of the Legislature, and for a long time the payment was concealed. It was only after a long interval that the Government brought it to light. Again, I hold, by the admission of the Treasurer, that the money was expended for corrupt and improper purposes—that it was expended in the elections which took place in two counties. That instead of setting an example of morality to the people, THE GOVERNMENT, FIRST APPROPRIATED THE PUBLIC MONEY UNDER FALSE REPRESENTATIONS; SECONDLY, THEY EXPENDED IT WITHOUT THE