N. B. LEGISLATURE.

FREDERICTON, March 31.—The debate on the address was resumed in the legislature this afternoon.

Mr. Morrissey said he had listened with interest to the remarks of the attorney general and the member for Carleton. The claim was put forward that the government was returned to power because of its progressive policy, and in this connection mention was made of its agricultural policy and its encouragement of wheat raising. In the county of Northumberland wheat that the government brought here four years ago was planted and did not turn out satisfactory. In reference to the importation of stock and the purchase of seed, one would think that there would be delegated for the performance of these duties practical men who knew something of seed and live stock. Some of the horses recently imported developed spavins, the wheat was bad and the Jersey cows were diseased. That is the kind of encouragement farmers received. Although some $35,000 was voted for agriculture, about $10,000 of this amount was paid out in salaries, so that friends of the government are really the ones to benefit by its agricultural policy, not the farmers.

Referring to the fishery award, Mr. Morrissey expressed the hope that if it was paid over to the province, bounties to the fishermen would not cease. In that case, too, money perhaps could be provided for the repair of some of the rotten bridges in Northumberland county.

Passing on to the lumber policy of the government, Mr. Morrissey referred to the act granting 35 year leases, and contended that the regulations were not being complied with. He knew certain lumber merchants in Northumberland who leased lands, the regulations of the leases requiring them to cut ten thousand feet of lumber off each mile granted, and the government was afraid to make them comply with the law. In such cases the land is held for speculative purposes and small operators are crowded to the wall.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—You made the statement that there are holders of timber land who do not operate them up to the requirements. Will you kindly name any to whom you refer?

Mr. Morrissey—The attorney general knows they do not comply with the law, but he (Morrissey) was not here to mention names. Continuing, Mr. Morrissey mentioned incidents which occurred three or four years ago, of three million of lumber being cut while stumpage was paid on only three hundred thousand. Mr. Snowball's record of shipments from the Miramichi last year was 128,000,000, while stumpage was paid on only 30,000,000. On the Dungarvon, 1902, 7,000,000 were cut and a scaler never saw the brows. In a recent federal election in Northumberland a liberal conservative candidate had the support of the leader of the liberal party in New Brunswick. He also had the support of the provincial government, and he received more rebate on stumpage than any other man in the province. If a committee of this house be appointed, he (Morrissey) was prepared to prove these facts. Last year 196,000,000 were shipped from Northumberland and money collected on only 85,000,000. Money that should be paid into the treasury finds its way into the pockets of the lumber kings, in return for their support at election times. He had no quarrel with the lumbermen. It was natural for a man to make the best bargain he could, but he wanted to say that other men besides lumber lords had a right to them, and this fact was recognized in Northumberland on the 28th of February last.

In reference to the reacquiring of lands from the New Brunswick Railway Co., he thought it was desirable for the government to adopt a different policy with their own lands in the interest of young men. In Northumberland last year ten young men made application for 100 acres each, which were refused on the ground that it was under license. That may be true, but the land applied for was among the best farming land in the country, there being no spruce to speak of on it. This shows that the government are afraid to grapple with the lumber lords.

The opposition are here today because of the independent, intelligent and unpurchasable vote of the people of this province. We had no federal minister to assist us, no strong influence of any kind to support us. He (Morrissey) believed in party lines in local politics, but it was hard for the supporters of the government to tell on what side the members were. He was sorry that the minister of railways had got in such bad company, but he hoped to see him clear of them soon. Then we would have honest politics in Northumberland, when a stumpage fee of $1 and the license regulations would be strictly enforced.

As a representative of the Irish Catholics he thanked the government for recognizing their rights by taking Mr. Sweeny into the cabinet, and hoped it would not be long before he was promoted to a higher position.

MR. DUNN

said one would think to hear the member from Northumberland that all the lumber operators and scalers were a gang of rascals. He had referred to Mr. Snowball especially, in which it was stated that a much larger quantity of lumber was shipped than stumpage was paid on, but he did not tell the house that included in that shipment was a large number of deals which Mr. Snowball bought from other manufacturers. He would ask the hon. member to name one man who paid only thirty cents stumpage.

Mr. Morrissey—Appoint a committee of the house and I will prove my charges.

Hon. Mr. Dunn—I would ask the hon. memoer to name one scaler who does not make proper returns. Continuing, Hon. Mr. Dunn said the hon. member fails to name even one scaler. It is easy to make the bold assertion that the crown land department was receiving 30 cents instead of $1 stumpage, but no importance can be attached to any such assertion when a member, on being questioned, refused to furnish names.

Referring to the granting of crown lands for settlement, Hon. Mr. Dunn said an applicant was never refused land suitable for farming. Applications had been received for timber land, ostensibly for the purpose of carrying on farming, the object being to clear off the lumber. This was one of the greatest difficulties the crown land department had to contend with. The system is when several applications are received together to send a competent person to examine the land, and if it is found suitable for farming a grant is made. Mr. Dunn said he had examined one lot applied for and found it to be excellent lumber land. Another applicant was refused a lot of one hundred acres for $50 payment, to extend over a period of ten years without interest, simply because he wanted green land. In other districts farms had been taken up and abandoned after the lumber had been sold off them, and an application made for new land. The member for Northumberland had nothing left to stand on. His remarks were most unfair and it was his duty as surveyor general to refute them.

Mr. King asked the member for Northumberland to name one horse that had developed spavins.

Mr. Morrissey—I don't know the name of any horse.

Mr. King—Indicate where the horse is at present, and where did you obtain your information.

MR. GRIMMER

said he regretted that he was unable to commend the speech of the surveyor general, because he expected to hear more aggressive statements from that gentleman. The member from Northumberland had stated facts which sat uneasily in the bosom of the hon. gentleman opposite. In the election in Charlotte in 1899 the government took great credit for what they had done in distributing wheat and turnip seed. A farmer in Charlotte Co. had planted turnip seed which turned out very poorly. The sum of $36,000 had been spent for agriculture. Of this amount $3,000 had been paid in bonuses to butter and cheese factories and $8,000 in farmers' societies, making a total of $11,000. The commissioner had received in salary and expenses for himself and a clerk $4,000, and the sum of $5,000 had been paid to dairy superintendents. For expenses of farmers' and dairymens' association there had been paid $1,000; the farmers' institutes $2,000, and for other services $7,000, so that it cost the province for salaries and expenses $14,000. Taking the report of agriculture for 1878, it is found that the total paid out for the benefit of the farmer was $23,000, out of which there was paid in salaries $600, and $6,000 for exhibitions, which placed affairs as they existed in 1901 in an inenviable light. He was surprised to find that the speech from the throne did not contain any reference to the mining development of the province.

Why is it that so many mining areas are allowed to be held without the regulations of the mining act being complied with? In Charlotte Co. five square miles were held by one man in St. Stephen since 1893, and he has simply paid the annual amount required to hold those leases.

Mr. Grimmer, in reply to Hon. Mr. Pugsley, said he referred to Frank Todd.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—Is it not a fact that those areas are under the control of clients of my hon. friend?

Continuing, Mr. Grimmer said the lease was held by Mr. Todd, from whom he had obtained an option in consideration of a royalty for the purpose of developing the areas. The sum of $7,000 has been spent. He had taken the government drill to Charlotte Co. under the agreement that the option would be renewed if the drill would work. The drill was supposed to bore from seven to twenty feet a day in hard rock, but some days it only went fourteen inches. When the time was up Mr. Todd refused to renew the option, and the surveyor general was appealed to. After two hearings that every statement set forth in the petition was proved to his satisfaction, but because Mr. Todd had the right to assume his property was being developed, he allowed him nine months to begin and carry on the work. Mr. Todd's own statement is that he does not intend to spend his own money in development, but to induce foreign capital to be expended for that purpose.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—Is it not the case that during the period referred to your clients had under lease an option which prevented Mr. Todd from entering the property for development?

Continuing, Mr. Grimmer said two years had elapsed since this petition had been filed and not a blow had been struck. Mr. Todd's option had elapsed long before the government drill had gone on the property.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—What could the government do about that?

MR. GRIMMER

said the lease which Mr. Todd holds compels him to work the property to the full extent of the mining act, and still he does not sink a shaft. He merely says that he will not develop the property himself but will induce foreign capitalists to do so while he reaps the benefit himself. This is a matter worthy the earnest consideration of the government, and he hoped the administration will give its support to the mineral developments of the province. New Brunswick is rich in minerals.

HON. MR. HILL

said he had a slight knowledge of the matter referred to by Mr. Grimmer, whose statement was calculated to leave a false impression. It was not true that Mr. Todd had held the areas for nine years without making an effort to develop them. They were under lease a portion of the time to Mr. Harrison of London, and a cross-cut was made for 120 feet in order to demonstrate the continuance of the mineral and the quality thereof. Money had been spent in sinking a shaft on the Rogers property.

Mr. Grimmer—Who sank the shaft? I know of a small hole 20 feet deep being made by Jas. McLean.

Hon. Mr. Hill said he saw the shaft but did not know its depth. It makes no difference whether the work was done by Mr. Todd or under lease to another party, so long as the work done on the property fulfilled the conditions of the law. When Mr. Harrison sunk the shaft he did not stop because of the expiring of the lease, but because the indications were not promising enough to warrant further expenditure. It was true that the drill did not go far through the hard rock. For a few days it only went fourteen inches, but his information was that good time had been made. While there was delay because of loss of diamonds and the hardness of the rock, operations were stopped not on account of this but owing to the fact that the operators became discouraged.

FREDERICTON, April 2.—The house met at 3 o'clock.

Hon. Mr. Labillois in reply to Mr. Hazen, said no steel bridges were put under contract during the last fiscal year. A list of all other bridges of a permanent character will shortly be submitted to the house.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie, in reply to Mr. Glasier, said that John Shehan was appointed vender of liquor under the Canada Temperance Act for the parish of Gladstone on the recommendation of Messrs. Harrison and Peake, and the government had no knowledge of Shehan having been fined for a violation of the Canada Temperance Act.

Hon. Mr. Labillois, in reply to Mr. Morrison, said it is not the intention of the government to ask for tenders during the present year for the construction of a permanent stone and steel bridge at French Fort Cove, in the parish of Newcastle, unless the town of Newcastle and the parish of Newcastle come to an arrangement about settling the question of the right of way according to plan proposed by the premier.

Hon. Mr. Labillois, in reply to Mr. Hazen, said the government has ascertained that the cost of damages to the Harris bridge, so called, across the Oromocto river, which was damaged on the 9th of November, 1900, by having one of the spans removed in order to enable one of the dominion government dredges to pass up the Oromocto river, amounted to $809.22. A claim has been made against the owners of the tug Sea King, and as no reply was received from them, the claim has been placed in the hands of the attorney general to press for payment.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley introduced a bill to postpone the county valuation of Kings, and a bill to amend the town incorporation act of 1896. He explained that this bill was similar to the one he had already introduced, but had some additional provisions which were rendered necessary by the case of Shediac and Sackville; also a bill to authorize the appointment of a stipendiary magistrate with civil jurisdiction in the parish of Upham.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie gave notice of a resolution for Monday next concurring in the Quebec resolutions with reference to the subsidies to the several provinces.

Mr. Hazen gave notice of enquiry as to forest preservation.

DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS.

Mr. King congratulated the member for Northumberland who had spoken yesterday on the fishery question, but thought that some of his statements would not bear a very close scrutiny. If we are entitled to a million of the Halifax award it was no defence against our claim for interest for the last 25 years that the government of Canada had been giving the amount of that interest yearly in bounties to the fishermen of Nova Scotia. Of the fishery bounties Nova Scotia received $101,000 annually and New Brunswick only $15,000. The interest of $1,000,000 would be at least $40,000 a year, so that there would be $27,000 a year coming to us for interest, over and above the amount paid to our fishermen in bounties, even if we admitted that the dominion government had the right to take our money to pay bounties. The leader of the opposition admits that this province has a strong case in its claim to a share of the Halifax award. Indeed, every lawyer who has looked into the matter admits that our claim is unanswerable. It, therefore, only becomes a question whether we should enforce that claim. We, as trustees of the people, would be neglecting our duties if we did not do so. It is the duty of the government to press this claim in the strongest manner possible. He had listened with interest to the speech of the member for Charlotte when he was dealing with the mining and agricultural policy of the government. With regard to the complaints made by him in reference to the mining leases, he thought it rather singular that if the hon. gentleman's clients were prepared to expend £50,000 in exploring and £250,000 for work they should be held up by petty demands for $500. This matter was heard before the surveyor general. He had read the evidence and it appeared from it that Mr. Todd had only been in possession of the property for about 12 months, while the other parties had held it for eight years. It therefore seemed to be reasonable that the surveyor general before making these leases void should give Mr. Todd nine months' more in which to develop the minerals. As to the agricultural policy of the government he had stated that $22,000 was spent for agricultural purposes in 1878, while only $600 was paid in salaries. He would hardly pretend to say that the agricultural state of the province was better in 1878 than it is now. In that year there was not a cheese or butter factory in New Brunswick, and butter from all sources.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie introduced a bill to authorize the leasing and development of the water falls at Grand Falls.

The house adjourned at six p. m. until Monday.

and cheese had to be imported from Quebec and Ontario. In 1901 the butter and cheese factories established by the government made $341,000 worth of butter and cheese and not only was the home market supplied, but we were able to export $206,000 worth of these articles. All this magnificent product had been built up by the policy of the government. In 1899 in the parish of Sussex the government built a dairy school. The first year it produced $3,000 worth of dairy products; the second year $18,000 worth; the third year, $28,000 worth, and the last $41,000 worth. This year the product will be close to $60,000 worth. All this has been built up without interfering in the least with milk business and the prosperity of Kings county has greatly increased in consequence of this policy. It does not follow that the money paid in salaries is wasted. There has been no expenditure more productive of benefit than that for the dairy superintendents who are educating our farmers into better methods. The member for Northumberland, who first spoke, complained that we had seed wheat imported by the government produced buckwheat. It was a characteristic of old and worn out land that produced such a crop, and that must have been the reason why the seed wheat to which he referred failed. The wheat policy of the government, although bitterly attacked, had been productive of great success. In regard to the horse importations, one of the Northumberland members had stated that some of the horses imported had developed spavins. This statement was unable to name the horse, and in fact no such thing had occurred. All the horses were perfectly sound when imported. The horse which the member for Northumberland referred to as having developed a spavin was a chestnut purchased by Col. Montgomery Campbell, and controlled by him and G. H. Barnes, both strong opponents of the government. He doubted whether it would be safe for the member for Northumberland to tell these gentlemen that their horse was spavined. If he had received any injury he had received it in their hands and while under their control.

One of the members for Northumberland had stated that the government was sustained on account of Mr. Blair's efforts in the interest of the province. He would think it perfectly right that they should have the support of the conservative party. Why then find fault because the government have the assistance of federal friends? It had been claimed that the election in Kings was not run on local lines; nothing else was discussed. The campaign was conducted on the record of the government alone.

It had been stated that the government policy was not aggressive. The mining, lumber and agricultural policies of the government were sufficient evidences of aggressiveness and indicated a desire on the part of the government to do all they possibly could to assist and develop the various industries of the province. That the electors think so was emphatically shown on the 28th of February last.

MR. MORRISON

said it was not his intention to make extended remarks. He took issue with the contention that the province was entitled to interest on the Halifax award. How can we expect interest when the fishermen have been receiving bounties all these years. The attorney general had stated that a case for the courts to decide would probably be agreed upon. Judging from the attitude of the minister of justice, the probability was remote, for he appears to be opposed to the idea of the provinces receiving the money. It would seem to him that the interests of the province would be better conserved by leaving the control of the fisheries in the hands of the federal authorities. The provinces in the event of receiving the award would have to create a fishery department and this she cannot very well afford to do.

Regarding the horse importation, it seemed to him that a committee to purchase those horses should have been selected from practical men.

In reference to Mr. Snowball's circular, stating that 128,000,000 of lumber had been shipped from Miramichi in 1901 while the returns from the crown lands department indicated that stumpage was paid on 30,000,000, the surveyor general's explanation was not satisfactory. Allowing for what was cut on private land and carried over on the wharves, there was a discrepancy of 45,000,000 to be accounted for. The surveyor general evaded the matter by assuming that the opposition were trying to arouse the lumbermen and scalers. That was an unfair attitude. The opposition are anxious to protect all interests and look to the government to do likewise. Matters of this kind were worthy of consideration. Ever since the Northumberland deal it has been the boast of the government that the lumber influence was at their back. This looks suspicious to say the least.

MR. CARPENTER

congratulated the mover and seconder on their able speeches, and the leader of the opposition on the able manner in which he had discussed the speech. Passing on to the agricultural policy of the government, Mr. Carpenter said he had always looked upon the farming industry as the most important in the province. One of the Northumberland members had found fault with the wheat distributed by the government. It was a lamentable fact that too many farmers are sowing bad seed and reaping inferior crops. It is a farmer's own fault if he sows good seed and he gets a poor crop. He agreed with the member for Charlotte that the money spent on salaries in the dairying department was productive of better results than all of the rest of the money spent in the interests of agriculture. To get the best results the farmers must be educated. Reference had been made to the Kangaroo turnip. He had had experience with that turnip and had no hesitation in saying that it produced a good crop. It was the farmer's fault if it turned out poor.

Passing on to the fishery award, Mr. Carpenter said that deep sea fishing was a national industry and as such should be encouraged from the dominion revenue. The dominion government had no right to use for that purpose money that belonged to the province. Taking up the question of additional subsidies, Mr. Carpenter contended that it was only the province's just due. The leader of the opposition has stated on more than one occasion that we have not sufficient revenue for the support of the public services. Then why is he opposed to the procuring of an increased subsidy? While it is his duty to criticize fairly the action of the government, it is also his duty to see that the province gets what lawfully belongs to it.

Mr. Osman moved the adjournment of the debate.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie gave notice of the following resolution for Monday next:

Whereas, the government of New Brunswick, jointly with the governments of Quebec and P. E. Island, have made the claim upon the government of Canada for the payment over to the provinces of Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and P. E. Island of $4,500,000) four million five hundred thousand dollars, portion of the Halifax award made under the treaty of Washington, 1871, as compensation for the privileges conferred by the said treaty upon the citizens of the United States of enjoying the inshore fisheries, and for the right to land upon the shores for the purpose of curing their fish and drying their nets, together with interest thereon; and

Whereas, this house is of the opinion that the proprietary rights and privileges referred to in article 32 of the said treaty and in respect to which Her Majesty received such compensation, were vested in Her Majesty in right of the provinces of Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and P. E. Island, and the colony of Newfoundland, respectively, and that the amount of said award which was paid to the government of Canada, with interest, equitably belongs to and should be paid over to the provinces; therefore

Resolved, that this house approves of the action of the government in joining with the governments of Quebec and P. E. Island in pressing such claims, and also approves of the proposal made by the said governments to refer to the supreme court of Canada the question of whether such proprietary rights and privileges were vested in Her Majesty in right of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or in right of the Dominion of Canada, and the colony of Newfoundland respectively, or whether there were vested in Her Majesty in right of the provinces of Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and P. E. Island and said colony respectively.

FREDERICTON, April 3.—In the absence of the speaker by illness, Mr. Allen took the chair.

On motion of Mr. Hazen, the report of the committee on the resolution passed yesterday was ordered to be transmitted to the premier of Canada and the minister of railways.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley introduced a bill limiting the time of action against physicians for mal-practice; also a bill to amend the Liquor License Act of 1898. He explained that the first section was to provide for the removal of commissioners before their term had expired. The second section was to cure a defect in the act relating to the parish of Beresford, from which the word wholesale had been omitted.

Mr. Copp introduced a bill to incorporate the C. B. Bathurst Light and Power Co.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley, in reply to the question of Mr. Hazen as to how many criminal prosecutions he had personally conducted during the year, said he he would obtain the details from St. John and answer in a few days.

Mr. Hazen gave notice of an address for returns of the transactions of the government with the banks during the past year; also of enquiry in regard to the Restigouche and Western railway, and Mr. Smith gave notice of enquiry in reference to the case of Daniel Bell, a lunatic.

DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS.

Mr. Osman resumed the debate on the address. In the course of his remarks Mr. O. said he had severed his connection with the conservative party because he was opposed to the national convention.

Mr. Hazen—Did you vote for the conservative candidate in 1891?

Mr. Osman—In 1891 I travelled to Winnipeg to vote against the conservative candidate, but before going I told him if he would call a proper convention and get the nomination I would support him.

Mr. Hazen—Did you vote for the conservative candidate in 1896?

Continuing, Mr. Osman said that in 1896 the conservatives were so disgusted with the action of their late representative that a wing of them decided not to have him again, and with the consent of the liberal party they put in the field Dr. Lewis, who was supported by the liberal and the conservative party and who went to Ottawa free to vote whichever way he liked. Mr. Osman said he was not a protectionist as could be found in New Brunswick or Canada. Replying to a letter which he had received from Sir Charles Tupper, he told that gentleman that he was compelled to withdraw his allegiance from the conservative party because the fiscal policy was used as a weapon to reward friends and punish enemies. The true trade policy of the liberal party was good enough protection for him.

MR. BURNS

congratulated the government on the growth and prosperity of the province. The member for Northumberland had spoken contemptuously of the lumber kings of the North shore. He had had some experience in the lumber business during the twenty years of depression, and he could tell the house that there was not so much money made out of the lumber business as his lumber challenge government got all the stumpage and everything they were entitled to out of the lumber industry. The lumbermen support the government not for favors received, but because they had confidence in its administration of affairs. This government is reasonable in all things. They make it their business to know the wants of the country. They are therefore looked upon with favor not only by the lumbermen, but by all other interests of the province as well. Speaking of the Halifax award, Mr. Burns thought that the money should come to the province.

HON. MR. DUNN

said he wished to call attention to the statement made by the member for Northumberland regarding Mr. Snowball's circular for 1901, which showed 128,000,000 of lumber to have been shipped from the Miramichi, while the returns for the crown land department showed stumpage to have been collected on only 30,000,000. He held in his hand a memorandum for the shipments of 1902 and the stumpage collected, which was as follows:

Memorandum, 1901-1902.

J. B. Snowball, stock carried over from other years and shipped 1902	8,000,000
From granted lands, Indian lands, shore logs and deals purchased	9,000,000
Paid stumpage on	9,000,000
Purchased from Sullivan, Leyton and others, who paid their own stumpage	2,000,000
Wm. Richards, W. A. Hickson, D. A. J. Ritchie, E. Hutchison, stock carried over from other years and shipped in 1902	15,000,000
From N. B. Land Co., besides smaller grants	55,000,000
They and other operators paid stumpage	18,500,000
Hemlock on which operators had paid stumpage on bark in previous years, hemlock logs not being subject to stumpage when the bark has been taken off and less paid	5,000,000
Total	121,500,000

This effectually disposed of the charges of the member for Northumberland. At a later stage he would show still more conclusively that the crown land department is getting every cent of stumpage that the province is entitled to. As another instance of the unfairness of the opposition charges, he might state that in 1900 New Brunswick gets the credit of shipping 451,518,451 feet of lumber. It is known to all that a great deal of this lumber was cut outside of the province.

MR. HARTT

said the member for Albert took up the valuable time of the house in telling of the election campaign in Albert county. Matters having no bearing on the interests of the country should not be discussed on the floors of the house. There is no time for that sort of thing. The temperance question did not play a very important part in the elections. In Charlotte county the temperance candidate was the lowest man on the ticket. Mr. Hartt did not think that the Kangaroo turnip seed proved very satisfactory. At all events the people in Charlotte gave up planting it. Some of the cattle introduced into Charlotte county by the government had not turned out well, and the imported horses sent there did not compare favorably with stock brought in by private individuals. He would like to see more money spent in agriculture, but at the same time it should be more evenly distributed. Charlotte county does not get enough.

In reference to the road grants Mr. Hartt thought the present system was faulty, inasmuch as the overseers, the commissioners and supervisors often come into conflict and spend money on a piece of road that has already been looked after, while others are neglected. An arrangement should be made whereby the management of affairs should be in the hands of the general supervisor.

Respecting the lumber industry, Mr. Hartt felt that it was one of the most important the government had to deal with and it seemed to him there was something wrong about the collection of stumpage. The license provides that the lumber operator can be placed on oath as regards the amount of lumber cut, and at the present time, when there is a feeling that the province is not getting all the stumpage it is entitled to, it would be well to have this provision carried out.

When the stumpage was lowered it was a time of depression, but now that lumber commands a good price it should be raised. He thought the stumpage should be at least $1.25.

HON. MR. SWEENY

complimented the leader of the government on the handsome manner in which he had been sustained at the election. It was a matter of congratulation that so many new men with the ability to speak had been returned. There were one or two points in the speech of the leader of the opposition to which he would briefly refer. The latter had stated that the policy of the government was not discussed during the election. It was so in Westmorland, for everywhere they spoke the policy of the government was the subject of discussion. The result was that the government had been sustained by the people because the supporters of the government were able to answer every charge that had been raised against them. As to the objection made with regard to the minister of railways coming into the province, it is surely his right to do so when the opposition declared that the defeat of the government would deprive him of his right arm. The leader of the opposition had spoken of the large supply of hope possessed by the attorney general. These hopes, he was glad to say, had been fulfilled in several cases, such as the Eastern Extension claim, upon which the sum of $275,000 had been obtained for the province. Mr. Hazen himself seemed to have been of a somewhat hopeful disposition, for he had hoped to defeat the government.

The policy of the government with regard to the farmers had produced excellent results, and the outcome of the election showed that the farmers appreciated it. It was the proper policy of the government to educate and to assist the farmer. He was glad to see that the leader of the opposition was prepared to support the government on many questions, and he was of the opinion that but for the large majority which one of the members for Charlotte described, that hon. gentleman would have been an out and out supporter of the government. He was unable to find that the leader of the opposition had on the hustings discussed the leading features of the policy of the government, such as the fishery award, the increased provincial subsidy and our representation at Ottawa. He took issue with what had been said with regard to leaving the care of the fisheries to the dominion government. The province was entitled to its share of the fishery award and also to the interest upon that sum, and he trusted that the money would be obtained. There was no connection between the payment of the award and the bounties to the deep sea fishermen. He thought it the duty of the dominion government to give these bounties irrespective of the Halifax award. The shore fisheries belonged to us, but the right to make regulations is in the dominion government. With regard to his own position, he felt that as a new member of the government he occupied a severe personal position. Something had been said in regard to the member for Gloucester aspiring to that position, but he was proud to say that he entered the government with the full support of the member for Gloucester and of all his colleagues in Westmorland

HON. MR. TWEEDIE

said he would not have thought it necessary to address the house on this occasion but for the extraordinary remarks made by one of his colleagues from Northumberland. He was somewhat hurt when he heard of the remarks made by the member for Northumberland, who introduced the characters of men who are building up the North Shore, stating that they were robbing the government, yet when he was asked the name of one man against whom he could bring such a charge he was unable to do so. He traduced not only the lumber operators but the scalers who are sworn to do their duty. The hon. gentleman could get rid of the charges made in this way. He should do his duty now and formulate them in a proper manner and he (Tweedie) challenged him to do so. If the hon. member did not formulate his charges he stood in the position of one who was not able to substantiate them. He (Morrissey) charged the surveyor general's department with gross maladministration, and if he had any evidence to prove the contention it was his duty to place the charges in proper shape, so that they could be investigated. The government employed scalers, who are all sworn men, and also a cruiser, whose duty it is to look after the scalers. The cruiser on the North Shore is Andrew McIntosh, a man of high character. The scaler goes into the woods, visits the camps, and sees how many men and horses are employed and makes an estimate of the probable cut. This estimate is sent to Fredericton and to the crown land office. Then comes the cruiser, who goes carefully over the ground and without knowing what the estimate of the scaler is, makes a separate estimate of the cut and sends it to the crown land office. Then if there is a serious discrepancy in these estimates the matter is looked into for the purpose of ascertaining which is correct. Now if there is any member of this house who knows a scaler acting dishonestly, it is his duty to bring charges against him, but I do not let us take away the character of these men without giving them a chance to be heard. The member for Northumberland says that there is one operator, who is only paying 18 cents a thousand stumpage for his lumber; I challenge him to name that man. We cannot control what outsiders say or what appears in the newspapers, but we can control statements that are made in this house. It seems to be the idea of some men that the only way they can advance themselves is by slandering other men. I am not in the position of the serpent on whom the curse was pronounced: "Because thou hast done this thou art cursed above all cattle and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life." The serpent's curses seem to have descended on some men, morally, they crawl on the ground. If there is any wrong in connection with the administration of the crown land office I challenge the leader of the opposition to have it investigated. I regret that this member for Northumberland has seen fit to bring his own county into disgrace. It is about 30 years since I first became a member of this house, and never before did I hear a man slander the leading men of his own county as this member has done. So far he goes in his evil work that another representative of Northumberland who spoke yesterday attempted to explain away his injurious statements.

The leader of the opposition has accused us of delaying the adjustment of the question connected with the fisheries. I can assure him that we have pressed these matters on as rapidly as possible. He has himself been in Ottawa and knows how hard it is to get the departments to act. During the period of the two years that he must have spent in Ottawa in his attendance of parliament what did he accomplish

Mr. Hazen—I got the first subsidy for a winter port steamer from the port of St. John to Liverpool.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie—A great many claims are made with regard to the winter port. It is something like the question as to who wrote the letters of Junius, which is still undecided, but I am glad to know that the leader of the opposition is able to make this claim. I thought that he only laid claim to having settled the Harris land job. I believe that afterwards he was willing to give the credit of accomplishing this to another.

Mr. Hazen—I have not claimed the Northumberland deal or that I sold my principles for an office.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie—The hon. gentleman seems to be ruffled by my remarks, but there is no reason why he should get annoyed. He cannot expect to make attacks without receiving some answer. He had a good deal to say about my coming back to the house without the support of the members who were my colleagues in my own county. I do regret their absence. One of them was Hon. Mr. Burchill, a gentleman of great ability, who filled the position of speaker for two terms. His absence is much regretted by me, and I think it will be regretted by many others in this house. My former colleagues from Northumberland conducted themselves as gentlemen and were honest and competent men. They were defeated, for the race is not always to the swift or the battle to the strong. One of my new colleagues claims to be a native of Alnwick. I hope he will look well after the interests of his constituents in that parish, for I intend to leave them to his care. If I was disappointed in the defeat of my colleagues, I think there was some disappointment among the gentlemen who were elected. All three expected to hold portfolios. The gentleman from Alnwick was to be provincial secretary, and I have no doubt he would also have been willing to take the office of attorney general, for before he has been here forty-eight hours he was prepared to challenge the attorney general on a point of law. The Northumberland gentleman who spoke first was to have been chief commissioner of public works and his colleague from Newcastle, surveyor general. There must be a lot of disappointed office seekers among their supporters, for every man they canvassed, they promised to make a scaler of lumber. Still I need not feel very sore in regard to the thirty-five good men behind me who have the utmost confidence in me.

The leader of the opposition says that I should take no credit to myself for the Quebec resolutions in regard to better terms because I opposed them in 1887. I did so then because I doubted the sincerity of those who passed them, they not having it in their power to do anything to carry them out. But when Mr. Blair and Mr. Fielding, who were members of the Quebec conference, got into power at Ottawa, I thought it my duty, as leader of the provincial government, to call upon them to give effect to their own policy. This house, I am proud to say, was the first to take steps to make the Quebec resolutions operative. We took the lead in the matter, and every province in Canada has joined with us in passing those resolutions. It has been said that the provinces are bringing an unfair pressure upon the dominion government, but the people of the provinces are the people of Canada, and surely they have a right to say what shall be done with their own money. In regard to the fishery matter there were many difficulties owing to the changes in the personnel of the department of marine and fisheries, Sir Louis Davies being succeeded by Mr. Sutherland and Mr. Sutherland being succeeded by Mr. Prefontaine. The principal difficulty was the working out of the details of the fishery question in connection with the leases and the protection of the fisheries. We had the power to stop all dominion licenses as owners of the fisheries, but we have refrained from doing so, and only desire a proper readjustment of the matter. I think it is better that the fisheries should be administered by the dominion, because they have got the machinery with which to do the work, but many large questions have arisen and are likely to arise in all the provinces. In Ontario they have undertaken to manage the fisheries themselves, and the dominion account shows there has been a surplus revenue of $20,000 in connection with the Ontario fisheries. That province will probably claim this amount from the dominion government. That is one branch of the case which I have been trying to get settled. The Halifax award is a simple matter, because the fisheries for which it was given are undoubtedly belong to the province, and the payment of this money will not bar us from participating in any bounties for deep sea fishing. Look at the case of Newfoundland. That colony got a million dollars of the Halifax award, but if she came into confederation the fact remains that she had received this money would be no bar in the fisheries men obtaining their share of the $160,000 a year bounties. The member for Northumberland says we should get interest on the award. I have had the question brought up by resolution so that the house can say whether what we have done meets with its approval or not. The same member thinks that it would require a separate department to pay out $13,000 in bounties. We may leave the work to the dominion government, which under the decision of the privy council has the right to regulate the fisheries.

All these questions have been discussed with the minister of marine, and I believe and hope that at an early day this matter will be settled. In regard to the question of redistribution of seats, we have already employed scalers, who are all sworn men, and also a cruiser, whose duty it is to look after the scalers. The cruiser on the North Shore is Andrew McIntosh, a man of high character. The scaler goes into the woods, visits the camps, and sees how many men and horses are employed and makes an estimate of the probable cut. This estimate is sent to Fredericton and to the crown land office. Then comes the cruiser, who goes carefully over the ground and without knowing what the estimate of the scaler is, makes a separate estimate of the cut and sends it to the crown land office. Then if there is a serious discrepancy in these estimates the matter is looked into for the purpose of ascertaining which is correct. Now if there is any member of this house who knows a scaler acting dishonestly, it is his duty to bring charges against him, but do not let us take away the character of these men without giving them a chance to be heard. The member for Northumberland says that there is one operator, who is only paying 18 cents a thousand stumpage for his lumber; I challenge him to name that man. We cannot control what outsiders say or what appears in the newspapers, but we can control statements that are made in this house. It seems to be the idea of some men that the only way they can advance themselves is by slandering other men. I am not in the position of the serpent on whom the curse was pronounced: "Because thou hast done this thou art cursed above all cattle and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life." The serpent's curses seem to have descended on some men, morally, they crawl on the ground. If there is any wrong in connection with the administration of the crown land office I challenge the leader of the opposition to have it investigated. I regret that this member for Northumberland has seen fit to bring his own county into disgrace. It is about 30 years since I first became a member of this house, and never before did I hear a man slander the leading men of his own county as this member has done. So far he goes in his evil work that another representative of Northumberland who spoke yesterday attempted to explain away his injurious statements.

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