

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Could you say whether it was in October?

Mr. COSTIGAN. My impression is that it was after the change of Government. The objections which may be raised against Mr. Heney in this, on the ground of his being a tenderer for the work, applies just as well in the former cases dealt with under the Order in Council. Parties tendered for these works on the canal when their materials and vessels were chargeable for certain amounts. It was held that inasmuch as the work was being done for the Government, they should not be called on to pay these tolls, and in every case from 1873 to this time they were repaid. Mr. Heney in transporting his barges had to pay tolls, but when transporting material he had not to do so at all. His contract called for a certain quantity of wood for the Parliament buildings. The officer in charge compelled Mr. Heney, for convenience sake, I presume, so as not to crowd up the ground, to land the wood on the wharves, so that he might draw it here as it should be required. Therefore, it seems pretty hard to charge him wharfage on wood which really belonged to the Government.

THE SUPPLY BILL.

House resolved itself into Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. McLELAN moved:

1. Resolved That towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the financial year ending 30th June, 1886, the sum of \$3,501,921.23 be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada.

2. Resolved, That towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the financial year ending 30th June, 1887, the sum of \$21,562,021.41 be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada.

Committee rose and reported resolutions, which were read the second time and concurred in.

Mr. McLELAN moved for leave to introduce Bill (No. 145) for granting to Her Majesty certain moneys required for defraying certain expenses of the public service, for the financial years ending respectively the 30th June, 1886, and the 30th June, 1887, and for other purposes relating to the public service.

Motion agreed to; Bill read the first, the second, and the third times, and passed.

PROROGATION.

Mr. SPEAKER informed the House that he had received a letter from the Secretary of His Excellency the Governor, as follows:—

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SECRETARY,
OTTAWA, 31st May, 1886.

SIR,—I have the honor to inform you that His Excellency the Governor-General will proceed to the Senate Chamber to prorogue the Session of the Dominion Parliament on Wednesday, the 2nd June, at 8.15 o'clock p.m.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HENRY STREETFIELD, Captain,
Governor General's Secretary.

The Honorable

The Speaker of the House of Commons.

It being Six o'clock, the Speaker left the Chair.

After Recess.

Mr. MITCHELL. It is just possible that we may not all have an opportunity of returning to this House next year, if an election takes place; and I want to say that if that event does take place, I hope that men will come here, not with the party chains tied around their legs, but that,

whether Liberals or Conservatives, they will come with freedom of conscience and independence of judgment, prepared to decide questions of public policy on their merits. I do not know what course the gentlemen leading the two great political parties may adopt, but many of the members of this House sympathise with me in the views I express, although they vote the other way. I may say that a large majority of the gentlemen on this side of the House express the views I express; but they are like a gentleman whom I have in my eye, who says in his own eloquent way, while my opinions are mine, and they are in sympathy with yours, my votes are my party's. On the other side of the House, there are men who come here pledged to support the leader of the Opposition; they vote with him, although they often feel that the views I express are right; but they cannot afford to depart from party lines. When I have stated on one or two occasions that this House has ceased to be a deliberative body—

Mr. SPEAKER. Order.

Mr. MITCHELL. If I am out of order, I apologise, but these are my opinions at all events; and I hope when we have a general election—I do not hope for much until we do—that gentlemen, when they go on the hustings, will go there, whether Liberals or Conservatives, I do not care which—I am neither—I am an independent man—will go there prepared, if elected to this House, to come here, free and unfettered, ready to vote, not as the party dictates, but as their conscience tells them is right and in the interest of the country. These sentiments I feel it my duty to take this opportunity to express at the close of this Legislature. If I have said anything to any hon. members during this Parliament that might be thought offensive or out of place, I hope they will forgive me. I have adopted the course I have pursued in this House from an intense conviction that if we want to elevate this country, we have to break away from those absolute party ties which control men on both sides of this House, and assume a more independent attitude prepared to exercise the right of private judgment, and vote as our consciences and hearts direct us.

Mr. TASSÉ. I do not rise to discuss the merits of the greater party, which is so well and ably represented by the hon. gentleman who has just spoken, but I am sure that all the Conservative members of this House will be only too glad to accept the apology which has been made to us by that hon. gentleman. My intention in rising is to draw the attention of the Government and the House to a great event which is about to take place; I refer to the completion and inauguration of the Canadian Pacific Railway. That work is assuredly one of the great works of this century, a greater work than the Suez Canal, a greater work than the Union and Central Pacific Railway, and a greater work than the Northern Pacific Railway, and I think that such an event in Canadian history should not pass unnoticed. As all the supplies are voted, I do not rise with the object of asking the Government to propose to vote any money for the proper celebration of that great event, but it seems to me that the Government should call the people of this country to celebrate that event in a proper and dignified manner. I think the inauguration of that railway should be the occasion of a general holiday for the people of Canada, for that great work is certainly the work of the people of Canada, directed as they have been so well by the Government which has so ably conducted the destinies of this country for so many years. I have noticed with pleasure that the great city of Montreal has already taken steps to celebrate the departure of the first train which will leave Montreal for the Pacific coast, and I think the whole people should be called upon to follow the example of the commercial metropolis of Canada and celebrate that in a proper manner. I was informed from good sources that the authorities of the Canadian Pacific Railway were disposed