

no object but to speak the truth—has spoken against the line selected by the Government and in favor of the combination line; and I may say that the city engineer mentioned in his final report to the mayor that he is a supporter of the present administration.

HON. MR. PLUMB—What view did Mr. Stairs take?

HON. MR. POWER—Any hon. gentleman who has read Mr. Stairs' reasons for the view he took will be satisfied that his opinion is not of very much value on the subject. Reasons more flimsy could not be given. I presume that the reason Mr. Stairs took that view is that the Government took it—the same reason that Mr. Daly had. I wish to say a word about these Lower Province members. I was a little surprised at the stand taken by certain members from the Lower Provinces in connection with this matter. There were certain gentlemen, for instance, the member for Westmoreland, N. B. I knew him to be a good business man. I knew that his county was interested in having the best line built from Montreal to Moncton, because Moncton is in his county. I was a little surprised, however, to find that he was supporting the Government scheme; but when I expressed my surprise I was told there were certain reasons which would appear later on why that gentleman supported the Government scheme. The papers which have since been laid on our table show why the hon. gentleman supported the Government scheme. I find that there is a sum of about \$118,000 in the last supplementary estimate, voted to a railway company which that hon. gentleman is, I think, the president and principal shareholder; and I may say that the railway had already received a subsidy of \$3,200 a mile from the Government, and I understand it has received a subsidy of about \$3,000 a mile from the local government; and I am informed by a gentleman who is in a position to know that the hon. gentleman from Westmoreland with this subsidy can build his road for nothing and own it; and one can readily understand why a gentleman looking forward to receiving for his own road \$118,000 would not quarrel with the

Government who had the power to give or withhold that subsidy.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—I rise to a point of order. I do not think the hon. gentleman has a right to attack a member of the other branch of the legislature and attribute personal motives for voting for a public measure—the furthering of his own interests.

HON. MR. POWER—I am not imputing motives; I simply state what appears from the public papers.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—Yes, and the hon. gentleman is adding a motive to it.

HON. MR. POWER—I am simply giving the facts, and hon. gentlemen can draw their own conclusions as to the motive. I may say further that that hon. gentleman no doubt thinks that his county will be more benefitted by having a road built to Cape Tormentine than by having the best road built from Montreal to Moncton. When I saw that item in the supplementary estimates I had no difficulty at all in seeing why that hon. gentleman had supported the Government scheme. Then I was somewhat surprised to find that the representatives of the County of Pictou supported the Government scheme; but when I saw in the supplementary estimate an item of \$250,000 as aid for a railway in the County of Pictou, I felt that it was not difficult to understand why they had voted in that way. I give these two cases as instances of the kind of influences that have been at work in favor of the Government route.

HON. MR. HOWLAN—What right has the hon. gentleman to impute motives to members of the other House.

HON. MR. POWER—I do not impute motives; I say there are the facts, and if my hon. friend wishes to say that there are improper motives at work, he is at liberty to do so. I say there are the facts—a grant for \$250,000 for a railway in Pictou, and there is the fact of the members for Pictou voting in a way that you would not expect them to vote.

HON. MR. POWER.