

be an opportunity presented to him to loot the public treasury. Well, I am not aware of anything that ever happened in Mr. Blair's career, which could cause him to be so assailed by the spokesman of the government, and be it remembered that from that day to this, not a single Minister of the Crown has opened his mouth to say that he regretted this onslaught on Mr. Blair. It is worth while thinking of what would happen if some other members of this government occupied the position of Minister of Railways, and I can only say that from all the signs of the times, the insinuation might have been laid at some of their doors with much better grace. I assume that the construction of the eastern section will be under a commission, but be that as it may, we know there was a proviso inserted in the Bill which practically takes out of the hands of that commission the letting of all contracts which involve the expenditure of any considerable sum of money.

Now, Sir, the government have had a trial of strength in Ontario and in the other provinces, and this afternoon the hon. member for Labelle (Mr. Bourassa) told the House, why they had done so well in the province of Quebec—if what they did there can be called doing well. The hon. gentleman explained that he went into the county of Montmagny and set forth his opinions. And what are those opinions of his. They consist of unceasing hostility to Great Britain, and an attempt to show the people of the province of Quebec especially, that he is inimical to the interests of Great Britain especially should the motherland become involved in war. I do not believe that the member for Labelle represents the feelings of the province of Quebec as a whole; I should be sorry if he did. I will be charitable enough to assume that he is only endeavouring to get some of that little notoriety which he seeks now and then, by a pyrotechnic display of oratorical fireworks. I do not believe that the people of the province of Quebec will endorse the views which he has announced this afternoon. Sir, there are some great principles which will be up for discussion in the province of Quebec, as well as in the rest of the Dominion when the hour of battle comes. The greatest of these is the question of protection for our industries, and in Hochelaga as well as in St. Hyacinthe there is no doubt that the demand for further protection of our industries, was the great factor in reducing the Liberal majority in these constituencies. In the province of Ontario we await with confidence the fight when it is brought on. The people of Ontario are sick of this government, it stinks in their nostrils. This government is not representative of that province. If the Ontario cabinet ministers were seen to-day on King Street in Toronto, not one of them would be known, outside of Sir Richard Cartwright and they would recognize him from old cartoons. This gov-

Mr. BENNETT.

ernment is not representative of Ontario, because there is not a single minister from that province who has not made pledges to the people, which remain to-day unfulfilled. Go over to that charnel house for decayed politicians, as the Liberals used to call the the Senate, and look at the array of Liberals there from the province of Ontario. Look at men like McMullen and Gibson and others I could mention, who were rejected by the electors of Ontario the moment they got the chance to turn them out. Well, Mr. Speaker, there will soon be a test of strength in the province of Ontario. The government here is waiting to see what will become of their companions in arms in the legislative assembly. If ever there was an old hulk drifting hopelessly about, with barnacles hanging from its side, it is the Ontario government. Why, it has even been deserted by 'Cap' Sullivan who has been openly discarded by the Hon. John Dryden. The government is tottering to its fall. It has endeavoured by the most disgraceful means to burk public opinion in that province. The House was summoned when five of the government supporters were to go into the courts, and it was summoned because the government knew that every one of these men would be unseated. The courts of the land have been set at defiance in order that the old battered wreck may float for a while longer. It is much the same with the Dominion government here. In East Lambton and East Bruce they got their answer from the people. Although they worked for all it was worth the machinery of the local and federal governments, they were hopelessly beaten in these constituencies.

But to-day the people of Ontario are waiting to give these gentlemen the punishment they deserve for having been false to every promise they have made in the past. True, the gentlemen boast of a gerrymander and of the great things they have accomplished in the province of Ontario in that regard. They had a test of strength in one of their gerrymandered constituencies the other day, the riding of East Bruce, and it did not turn out very well for them, because, gerrymandered as that riding was, they were defeated, as they will be in the next general elections. Go over the province of Ontario from one end to the other, and you will find that each member supporting the government is holding his seat by promises that certain changes are to be made in the tariff, that the government are going to erect public buildings, and other promises of one kind and another; but one thing we do see, that wherever it is possible each of these gentlemen is trying to fasten himself on to a government job with a fat salary. The government may assume a supercilious air towards this debate, but I can tell them that in the province of Ontario, the centre of intelligence of this great Dominion, there are a great many eyes on this government—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Hear, hear.