

whereby this Government, associated with the Government of Ontario, may secure the building of this independent line. I trust party politics in matters of that kind will not enter into a public project like this, but that the views of the hon. member for West Durham will be carried out in a practical shape.

Mr. SPEAKER. My attention has been called to the fact that this Bill was amended by the Select Standing Committee on Railways as being a Bill from the Senate, and must be considered as having been amended here in Committee. Therefore, it has been reported from Committee of the Whole with amendments.

Bill read the third time and passed.

BILL IN COMMITTEE.

The following Bill was considered in Committee, reported, and read the third time and passed:—

Bill (No. 120) to incorporate The Canadian Rapid Telegraph Company, Limited — (Mr. Davies.)

CREDIT VALLEY RAILWAY.

Mr. CAMERON (Victoria) moved the second reading of amendments made by the Senate to Bill (No. 50) to amend the Act respecting the Credit Valley Railway Company.

Mr. BLAKE. I do not intend to trouble the House with any observations with regard to the amendments, but I desire to place on record my views with respect to those amendments which have been introduced into a Bill with respect to a local railway, the Credit Valley Railway, by which it is declared to be a railway for the general advantage of Canada, and by which powers are given to that railway Company to effect a lease to another railway corporation. These are amendments "C" and "D," and I move to disagree with the amendments for the following reasons:—

Because having regard to the facts,—

1st. That the Credit Valley Railway Company is a Provincial Company, incorporated by the Ontario Legislature;

2nd. That it has received from Ontario Municipalities aid to the amount of \$1,165,000, on various conditions;

3rd. That it has received from the Local Legislature aid to the amount of \$457,500;

4th. That this aid has been given on conditions that the Local Government may require the Company to enter into agreements to be settled by the Local Government for running powers, or user, or haulage arrangements, by other companies over its road; and upon conditions for the giving of returns and information to the Local Government; and upon conditions as to the retention of its rails;

5th. That the Company is now subject to the control of the Local Legislature, and that its rates and tolls are regulated under Local Laws;

6th. That the conditions under which the Municipal grants have been given, can now be enforced by the Local Legislature;

7th. That it is within the competence of the Local Legislature to authorize the lease of the Railway to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, on such conditions as it deems just;

8th. That no application has been made for that purpose to the Local Legislature;

9th. That no notice has been given of any intention to apply to the Parliament of Canada for the legislation contained in the amendment;

10th. That no petition has been presented, praying for the amendment, it is not expedient that legislation which will have the effect of withdrawing the Railway from Provincial jurisdiction, and of vesting in the Parliament of Canada its exclusive control should be passed, without the notice required by the *Standing Orders* of The House, or any notice or petition whatever, and without giving the parties concerned any opportunity of being heard on the question.

Amendment negatived on a division.

Mr. CAMERON (Victoria) moved that the said amendments be amended as follows:—

6. If at any time hereafter the Credit Valley Railway Company shall enter into any agreement for amalgamation or leasing, or into any pooling arrangement with the Grand Trunk Railway Company, or into any agreement for the joint use of their respective railways, either directly or through any company leasing or controlling its line, then the powers conferred by sections 3 and 4 of this Act shall cease, and determine.

Amendments, as amended, concurred in.

Mr. DUNDAS.

SUPPLY.

The House again resolved itself into Committee.

176. Annual Grants to Supplement the Indian Fund, Ontario and Quebec, and the Maritime Provinces.....\$31,880.00

Mr. DAWSON. I desire to offer a few remarks in reference to the item now under consideration. The Indians in my constituency are numerous; we have 5,200 in Algoma proper, 3,800 on the waters of Rainy River, and 2,000 or 3,000 in the northern sections, making over 10,000 altogether. And I would say that within the last eight or ten years the condition of these Indians has been greatly ameliorated throughout Algoma, chiefly or in great part at least, from the enforcement of the laws respecting liquor. They have not been able to get intoxicants to the extent they once did, and the officers of the Government are performing their duty throughout that wide district in a very zealous and praiseworthy manner; I have great satisfaction in saying in this House, that the condition of the Indians is getting greatly better, many of them are settled on farms; we have as many as 1,700 settled at one place on the Manitoulin, 300 at another, and so on with other settlements. At Sault Ste. Marie and on the north coast of Lake Huron, the Indians are well advanced, growing large quantities of agricultural produce, including wheat. Industrial schools are also established among them; there are industrial schools at Wikwemikong, on Manitoulin Island, where Indians are taught trades of all kinds, to which they take very readily; there is also an industrial school called the Shingwauk Home at Sault Ste. Marie, which has done an immense deal of good. These institutions are sending through the country educated young Indians, and the trades they easily learn are much more to their advantage than would be mere scholastic learning. I am happy to say that this system is gradually having a good effect, and that the condition of the Indians in Algoma, a great many of whom have settled down, has been very much improved within the last few years. I wish to call attention for a moment to those Indians who ceded their lands under the treaty known as the Robinson Treaty, made in 1850, which was for many years very imperfectly carried out. The real purport of the treaty was, that the Indians should get so much per annum; but unfortunately the payments actually made to them fell very far short of what they should have been according to the treaty. They were to get a certain sum then, and if the revenue arising from the lands ever amounted to so much, as to allow them "\$1 a head, or so much more as Her Majesty might be graciously pleased to order," in that case additional payments were to be made. The lands yielded a very handsome revenue long before Confederation, such a sum as would have enabled the Government without loss—which is the expression in the treaty—to pay the full amount stipulated; but the matter seems to have been neglected, and it was not paid. For a number of years, the Indians on Lake Superior were paid \$1.49½ a head annually only, while the Lake Huron Indians got for a number of years \$1.10 a head annually, instead of the \$1 a head to which under the treaty they were entitled. When Mr. Laird was Minister of the Interior, the matter was brought to his notice, and he, on investigating the subject, found that as much as \$10,484 annually had been kept from the Indians. It was then arranged that they should get the full amount of \$4 per head, but this only occurred in 1875, and they have been paid \$1 per head ever since; but previous to that date, arrears were due them amounting to a very considerable sum. The Government could have paid them the full amount without loss. In making an estimate, I searched through the accounts of Ontario, and I looked also through some of the accounts at the Dominion office here; and according to a very moderate estimate