

be included. I would like to give further information on the subject. The company was incorporated in 1880 and was allotted a land grant of 6,400 acres of land per mile. When it was announced in the Speech from the Throne that that land grant was to be made free, it gave a stimulus to that enterprise, which was an important one, connecting the Canadian Pacific Railway with Battleford. I have always maintained that the more railways you can have in that country the better. I should like to hear that an Order-in-Council will be brought down and approved of, giving this company the same advantage as the others which are mentioned in the Bill, because if it is left over for another year there is danger that it will drop out. Some \$75,000 has been expended on the line already and it seemed to the promoters of the railway that it should not be left behind.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—I should be glad to assist in any way to bring the North-West Central Railway back into the position which the roads mentioned in this Bill occupy. As I understood, the chief promoter of that Bill said that he did not want the matter pressed at present.

HON. MR. SCOTT—That is a misunderstanding, I am told.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—Well it is very unfortunate. I asked about it on Friday or Saturday, and I was then told by the acting Minister of the Interior, Mr. McLelan, that he had been asked to delay action with reference to that North-West Central Railway, and in consequence had delayed it so that it does not appear in this list. That understanding, which he certainly had on Friday, my hon. friend thinks was removed by some intimation which he got from the promoter of the Bill on Saturday. If he did get that information—I do not at all gainsay it but I have not heard it—it was too late apparently to insert that railway in this Bill. I will confer with the acting Minister of the Interior and see what can be done. We could not insert it in the Bill here, as my hon. friend knows. I am afraid the only way to remedy the omission would be to bring in a new Act. Whether the

Government would be prepared to do that I do not know. It is certainly unfortunate that the misunderstanding occurred. What I promised to do I did: I laid it before the Minister of the Interior and asked him why that Company was not included. He raised no objection to it except that its terminus on the Canadian Pacific Railway should be at some point west of the place mentioned, and that difficulty being got over, he approved of it being added in the same way as the others. An Order-in-Council might perhaps facilitate the Company in their transactions. Such an Order-in-Council once procured, would perhaps be sufficient until another session of Parliament. My hon. friend shakes his head: well it may be possible to have a Bill brought in specially with reference to that railway during the present session. I will inquire and if we can do anything about it, I shall be very happy to meet my hon. friend's views.

HON. MR. SCOTT—Parliament had fixed the point of departure at Melbourne and the Order-in-Council recognized that under their public charter they were entitled to land from Melbourne: but it appears in giving land to the Manitoba & North-West Central Railway Company it was found that they were intruding on their territory, that there was not territory enough in the angle between the Canadian Pacific Railway territory and that claimed by the Manitoba & North-Western. As Parliament had given this authority for the point of departure from the Canadian Pacific Railway line at Melbourne, and as the Government had recognized that by order-in-council, giving 6,400 acres per mile, and as this difficulty has only arisen by finding on the map that the land could not be given alongside of the road, I think it is the duty of the Government to assist the Company out of the dilemma. My suggestion is the one I have mentioned, the Government and the Company agreeing on a point further west: that difficulty could be obviated in that way. I do not see why it should be postponed; it need not take long to bring an Order-in-Council down.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—I will inquire and see what can be done.

HON. MR. SCOTT.