

route of this railway, the quality of the lands, and the prospects of the company as to getting the means of constructing the railway; but we are asked to grant this money for the purpose of enabling these people to unload their bonds on the London markets and induce people there to embark in this undertaking. I am exceedingly sorry that there is a single member to be found on this side of the House disposed to sanction this grant. I feel humiliated, and I cannot help expressing my humiliation, that we have one man who is willing to support it. We have had in the past men interested in railroads, advocating the granting of charters to them, and supporting donations for them taken from the Dominion treasury; but I had earnestly hoped that the day of such things had passed away, and I am sorry that we have an exhibition of the same thing on this occasion. I think this House should set its foot on the efforts of any member, I care not which side of the House he belongs to, either to promote his own interests or the interests of the company in which he is interested as a shareholder, by using his voice or vote for that purpose. I earnestly hope that we shall soon reach the day when the people of this country will frown most severely on members of Parliament guilty of conduct of that kind. I have used harsh language in speaking on this subject, perhaps too harsh; but I felt humiliated that we had a man on this side of the House who would dare to get up and advocate such a scheme in this House to-day—one that has been pronounced, and justly pronounced, a wild-cat scheme—a scheme of which we know one end, but not the other. I have nothing to say against the men who are associated in this scheme; I dare say they are trying to make a speculation out of it, both in their own interest and in the interest of the country; but I do hope that the day is not far distant when we shall not see repetitions of such scenes as we have had here this afternoon.

Mr. CASEY. I cannot very well sit still under my hon. friend's imputation, that I am working for G. E. Casey rather than for the county I represent. My hon. friend has amplified that by the statement that he feels humiliated that such a person as I should exist on this side of the House, and he thinks it is abominable that any member of this House should use his voice, or his vote, or his influence, in order to advance the interests of a company in which he is interested. I will not take refuge behind the law of Parliament that any member of a joint stock company is allowed to speak and vote on questions concerning that company of which he is a member, but, apart from the legal rule, if it is to be insisted upon that a member of this House is not to say anything in favour of any company in which he may have an interest, I think we would have very bald debates in this House on such a subject. The members who are interested in that company are best qualified to present the condition of that company to the House. Their business interests have forced them to satisfy themselves as to the soundness or unsoundness of the investment. As to voting, that is a matter of taste whether a shareholder in a company should vote or not on legislation affecting it, though I shall not vote on this matter. But as to this question I have no idea that any vote in this House or any subsidy granted by the Government

will put any money into the pockets of those who first had the pluck to invest their money in this railway. I have not the slightest idea that I will ever get any money out of the Hudson's Bay Railway Company. I think the question the hon. gentleman has referred to, of whether I am speaking for myself or for my county, may be safely left between myself and my constituents. The hon. gentleman also objects that the Hudson's Bay Railway would divert trade from Montreal. I am altogether opposed to this idea of sectionalism. I believe that, in advancing the interests of any part of the country, you are advancing the interests of the whole country. In advancing the interests of Manitoba, we who live in Ontario are advancing our own interests. It is by the expansion of Manitoba and the North-West that we can advance the interests of the country at large and of our own constituencies. I also protest against the use of a phrase which was used by my hon. friend from Huron (Mr. Cameron), and that is the term "wild-cat scheme." That word has been constantly used in reference to this railway, and I say it is unjust and insulting, and outside of this House it would be libellous to use it in regard to any undertaking, unless it was proved. I ask hon. gentlemen to what they can point in regard to this road which would justify the use of such a term in reference to it?

Mr. MACDOWALL. I would not have troubled the House were it not that the hon. member for Wellington had spoken, as he admitted, very harshly in reference to this railway which is very important to the people in the West, from the great lakes to the Rocky Mountains. The hon. gentleman spoke as one of the leaders of the Liberal party, and it will be understood in the North-West that he has enunciated the policy of the Liberal party, or of one section of it, in regard to the North-West. He said that my hon. friend from West Elgin (Mr. Casey) was interested in this matter, but he forgot that he had given notice of an amendment that this scheme should not receive any assistance until his constituents had received similar consideration for the railways which they had constructed. Had he not a personal interest in that matter? Is it fair for him to make a personal charge against the member for West Elgin (Mr. Casey), when he showed that he had a personal interest in the matter? In the North-West, we are not concerned with the spirit of sectionalism which the member for Wellington has shown, and this claim that the Hudson's Bay Railway would take trade away from Toronto or other ports in the east shows that we cannot depend on hon. gentlemen on the other side for any consideration in any cause we may lay before the House. I am perfectly justified in making that statement, and I adhere to it unless one of the leaders of the Liberal party contradicts the statement of the hon. member for Wellington. The hon. gentleman said that the navigation of Hudson's Bay was shown to be altogether out of the question. I do not think he can have read any of the reports which have been made as to the navigation of Hudson's Bay. Lieutenant Gordon says there will be three months navigation there. Captain Markham, now Admiral Markham, says there are four months navigation there, and all the reports show that the only danger is from the ice which is let loose from the north in the early spring or during June