

Mr. Pipes was right and he was wrong. The hon. gentleman has referred to the county of Pictou, and but for that reference I would not have taken the floor to-night, but he further insinuated, although our opponents fought that contest in a fair and honest way and have admitted that they were beaten fairly and above board, that we made an attempt to bribe the constituency, and used what he called these bushels of Minutes of Council in reference to the Short Line Railway in the county of Pictou, for that purpose. I deny that. I say it is absolutely without foundation. The hon. gentleman was not in that county at all; I traversed it from end to end, and, though I did not meet an ex-Minister of the Crown during that election, I met an hon. gentleman who apparently knew more than the hon. the senior member for Halifax in reference to the Minute of Council. All parties admitted in that county, and Mr. McLeod, the Liberal candidate himself, admitted, and in fact claimed the benefit of that admission, that, by that Minute of Council being passed as the logical sequence of the action of this Parliament, which the hon. gentleman seems to have forgotten, the necessity was recognised for the Short Line, for the extension of the Intercolonial Railway into Cape Breton, which by building this piece from Oxford to New Glasgow, would bring the whole of eastern Nova Scotia forty miles nearer to this detested Canada. My opponent knew enough to see that this had placed the question beyond the point as to who would serve the people best in reference to the Short Line Railway, and he further stated that, if Mr. Blake were returned to power, he had an assurance from Mr. Blake that he would carry out that policy in the spirit and the letter; and I want to know if the hon. gentleman challenges the accuracy of the statement made by a gentleman who, since his defeat in that county, has been elevated to a position in the Government of Nova Scotia, the friends and allies of my hon. friend. He knows well that a Minute of Council never has been and never can be used as a bribe. The hon. member for Bothwell (Mr. Mills) will teach my hon. friend a lesson on that point. He will tell him that the faith of the Governor General of Canada is pledged to carry out the statements and the assurances which are made in a Minute of Council; and in no part of Nova Scotia did any public man on the Liberal-Conservative side say that it depended on the return of the present Government whether good faith would be kept or not in reference to these Minutes of Council. Such Minutes of Council have never been repudiated, and I do not think the hon. gentleman will find any authority for saying that Minutes of Council have ever been held out as bribes or to induce false hopes and expectations. The hon. gentleman has not been able to give us the list, or to apportion out that amount of from ten to fifteen millions of dollars which he said, and said inaccurately, were promised by Ministers of the Crown in Nova Scotia. We meet that with an absolute denial. The hon. gentleman has a scrap-book in which he has his own speeches. Perhaps it also contains the speeches of the Ministers to whom he has alluded, and I challenge him to show that the Minister promised that ten or fifteen millions to the Province in that campaign. He cannot do it. He knows he cannot do it. But he knows what his friends in the Province of Nova Scotia did. He says this is a corrupt practice. Let me tell the House what was done by Mr. Fielding, who acts under orders from my hon. friend opposite, whose great adviser he is, whom he advises daily, when he is in Halifax, as to how he shall shape his policy and over whom he has great control. Previous to the election, at the very time that he said our Province was ruined and had not a dollar in the exchequer, Mr. Fielding introduced a Railway Bill with a lobster clause, that promised every part of Nova Scotia a subsidy of \$3,200 a mile for any railway that might hereafter be built there, and also 2,000 acres of land for every mile of railway. And, even if the

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project were taken up by this Parliament, Mr. Fielding, in his generosity, was willing to add that on to the subsidy to be granted by the Dominion Parliament. And yet my hon. friend, the friend and ally and leader of that gentleman, pretends to look with horror upon the statement made by the Ministers of the Crown, responsible to the people of Nova Scotia, that they were able to redeem the promises held out by the Liberal-Conservative party long back, and that if they would utterly disregard those extraordinary statements made to them by small-minded politicians from day to day, that all this expenditure west was to be of no benefit to them, that the money expended in that direction would never be paid back, the time would come when, having grappled with these great public works and with these great railways of national importance, more attention would be paid to the eastern Provinces; and when they came to that Province and told the people that from time to time legislation had been obtained, pledging the country to lines of railway of national importance in the Province of Nova Scotia, and that, no matter whether the Liberal or the Liberal-Conservative party were returned to power, these roads were secured, and it was beyond the power of any party, which regarded its own interests and its own standing in the country, to repudiate these Minutes of Council. Then this hon. gentleman, hiding forsooth behind this other policy of the Liberal Government of Nova Scotia, charges the Dominion Government with bribery in the use of these Minutes in Council. He sings a different song down in the Province of Nova Scotia. What is bribery here is justice there. He told the people of Halifax, and his friends told the people of Nova Scotia, that these works should have been carried out long ago.

Mr. JONES. Hear, hear.

Mr. TUPPER. He says "hear, hear," and his friends there assert that it is justice which has been long delayed. But, taking his cue, I suppose, from the columns of the *Globe*, he says now, as the *Globe* said in 1869, that the better terms and all these subsidies, are bribes to the people of Nova Scotia. Does he mean to insinuate that that Province was bribed wholesale at the last election, and that the people of his Province, when they are making large claims now, and he and I hope that something may come out of these claims upon the Treasury here, are to be beaten off their demands, are to be changed in their views as to what is necessary for them and the country in this way? What has become then of the cry for better terms? Has the bribe been sufficient, does the hon. gentleman think? I think he was on dangerous ground when he tried the other evening to read a lecture to the junior member for Halifax (Mr. Kenny) in reference to his having stated what was apparently evident to the members of this House, that that repeal cry was a dishonest and a disloyal cry, used for election purposes only. I think it strange that the hon. gentleman should say that the Province has been bribed in this matter. Well, now I have shown that the policy declared while he was out of the House, the policy which, I believe, was forced through in the face of great opposition from his new found friends, was not for the first time enunciated by the Minister of the Crown during the election, and from that no departure was made; and that policy is that wherever there is such a railway, or such an enterprise, that in the opinion of the Government it can be secured by the payment of \$3,200 a mile, and it will be for the benefit of Canada, Canada at least should aid that enterprise to that extent, and further than that none of these hon. gentlemen went. I am sure that, on reflection, the hon. gentleman will admit that that is true. Now, in the excitement of the other evening, the hon. gentleman was bold enough to denounce the electors, and I hope he confined these denunciations to the electors of the county