

two gentlemen had no following whatever in the House from their own Province, and hence they had become utterly devoid of influence in the Cabinet. (Hear, hear). And all this time there was the Minister of Militia with his large following from Quebec, who sways the Cabinet as he pleased. (Hear). Now such a state of things was an outrage on their system of Government. It was the very essence of that system that the Cabinet should be a unit; but the Minister of Justice let out the fact that there was a division in the Cabinet, and let the House into the secret of the utter want of influence in the Cabinet enjoyed by the nominal representatives of Ontario. (Cheers).

Hon. Mr. Johnson insisted that the Cabinet should be united on this question. A Government that would not stand together, shoulder to shoulder, in support of their views, was not worthy the support of any intelligent body of men.

Dr. Parker read from a speech of Mr. Adderly, in the debate on the Intercolonial Railway guarantee measure, to show that the expectation of the British Government had been that the Dominion Government should obtain from this Parliament the sanction of a route to be recommended to the Imperial authorities. Yet their first act in connection with this question had been to remove it from the control of this Parliament altogether. The Government were treating the House and country improperly in withholding information from the House as to the course they were pursuing.

Mr. D. A. McDonald thought the Government acted wisely in sending out a corps of Engineers to get the best possible information as to the route. They could not have come properly to a decision without getting information from skilled engineers. He thought Mr. Sandford Fleming was the right man in the right place when employed to make the survey.

Mr. Jones (Leeds) said the people of this country were fast coming to the conclusion that the survey of the Intercolonial Railway was costing too much. Already it had cost \$200,000. A good engineer passing through a country could form a pretty correct idea where the road should be located without a minute survey. He regretted there should be so much expense and delay. He thought it would have been better if Government had left the route to the decision of the House.

The item then passed.

99038—431

On the item for Canals, \$223,000,

In reply to Mr. D. A. McDonald,

Hon. Mr. McDougall said, by reports from officers of the department, it appeared that \$121,000 was the sum that would be required to complete the St. Peter's Canal, in addition to what had been appropriated by Nova Scotia, \$102,000.

Mr. Young asked if this amount would go to swell the debt of Nova Scotia?

Hon. Mr. McDougall—No.

Mr. Young asked why it was on a different footing from the railway grant?

Hon. Mr. McDougall said the canals by the Union Act became the property of the Dominion, and the Dominion had to incur the cost of their completion and repairs. It was the same with the Nova Scotia Railroad, but the Windsor and Annapolis Railroad was in a different position, being a subsidized railroad under contract by a company, and the subsidies were paid in pursuance of obligations incurred by the Province of Nova Scotia.

In reply to Mr. Thompson, (Haldimand),

Hon. Mr. McDougall said he expected the Welland Canal enlargement would be completed in the course of next season.

The item passed.

On the item Parliament and Departmental Buildings, \$100,000.

Mr. Bodwell questioned the propriety of expending more money just now on these buildings. It was doubtful whether the Federal Government should remain at Ottawa. It was looked upon by many as not the most eligible place. They believed it would be more desirable to have it located where an intelligent public opinion might be brought to bear on Parliament and the Government, which was most likely to be found in one of our large commercial centres of population. It had been more than hinted that there were parties in one of our principal commercial cities who were willing to accept these buildings and give in exchange for them, in that city, another set of buildings quite equal to these for the use of the Legislature and Government. The reports of the debates in the journal of this city did not seem to indicate that the public feeling in this place was sufficiently strong or impartial to compel the organs of public opinion to give equal justice to the members last night, for example, the House had listened with pleasure to the very