

from their predecessors.—After the hon. member had occupied the time of the House for about an hour and a half, he proceeded to put a number of questions to the Government relative to financial matters.

Hon. J. A. MACDONALD arose and denounced the course pursued by the hon. gentleman (Mr. McGivern) in taking up the time of the House by speaking against time, and during the greater portion of the time—without any reference to the question before the Chair. (Hear, hear.)

After repeated cries of "Question"—Hon. Mr. DORION then moved an amendment to the following effect:—That the Speaker do not now leave the Chair, but that it be resolved that this House regrets that, though it is deemed necessary to maintain the public credit, to impose new taxes in order to meet the public expenditure—His Excellency the Governor General has been advised to sanction measures for the purposes of reducing the canal tolls without obtaining any corresponding advantage.—The hon. gentleman, in making this motion, reviewed the question of canal tolls, and argued that it was bad policy on the part of the Government to reduce the canal tolls, although obliged to impose additional burdens—for instance, a stamp duty and other taxes. It would have been a much wiser course to retain the tax which was not of an onerous nature instead of removing it, and substituting others which would be much more heavily felt.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said the Opposition proposed discussing the motion fully before coming to a vote. He suggested the propriety of adjourning, it being now late.

Hon. J. A. MACDONALD had no desire to prevent hon. gentlemen opposite from discussing the matter fully; but, at the same time, thought that the hon. gentleman should have moved this motion before he concluded his speech reviewing the budget, so that the discussion should proceed without allowing the time of the House to be wasted by the long, irrelevant debate that had arisen. He (Mr. Macdonald) would like to know if this was intended as a distinct motion of want of confidence in the Ministry.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON had intimated, last night, the course he intended to pursue; and that, before the House rose, and before the general question was put, it was probable that a motion would be placed in the Speaker's hands, intended to raise a discussion touching the policy of the Government on the canal tolls; and the motion just now introduced was the fulfilment of that pledge. The Opposition did intend to take the sense of the House on the question. The terms of the resolution were, he thought, sufficiently distinct to convey their own meaning. It was not a general motion of want of confidence, but a declaration on the part of those who approved of the motion that the policy of the Government on the matter of the canal tolls did not meet their approval.

Hon. J. A. MACDONALD asked the hon. member for Hochelaga if his motion were one of want of confidence, or a specific motion?

Hon. Mr. DORION said this motion was intended to record the sense of the House as to the policy of the Government on the canal tolls.

Hon. J. A. MACDONALD said that the reason why he asked the question was, that the Government had been threatened in and out of the House with a vote of want of confidence, and he wanted to understand definitely whether this were the motion in question. Notwithstanding this threat, the Opposition were afraid to state so specifically. They shrank from making the confession, spite of the covered threat of the member for North-Wellington, because they knew the Government possessed the confidence of this House. (Cheers and counter-cheers.) Now, the course of practice to be pursued by the Government depended upon the construction put upon the motion—because if it were not one of want of confidence, they would move the discussion be adjourned till Tuesday, but if it were, they would move that the debate be resumed on the House opening on Monday. (Cheers.) After the intimation given as to this motion, he thought it but right the mover should state what was its character. However, the Government would accept it as such, although he would not admit the fact. And, therefore, he would ask this House to set aside the rules of the House on Monday, and resume the debate on this motion. The Government were perfectly willing to try the issue to-night, but the Opposition shrank from accepting the challenge. (Cheers.)

Hon. Mr. BROWN said it was for the hon. gentleman opposite to determine whether it was a vote of want of confidence or not—it was not for the Opposition to say. If Ministers accepted this as a vote of want of confidence, let them say so.

Hon. J. A. MACDONALD—We are willing to take it as such; but they are afraid to say so. (Hear, hear.)

Hon. Mr. BROWN said the motion was a direct condemnation of the whole canal policy of the Government.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD said it was all very well for hon. gentlemen opposite to talk, but they knew very well this was a motion of want of confidence.

Hon. J. A. MACDONALD—Why didn't you say so? (Laughter and cheers.)

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD went on to say that hon. gentlemen on the Ministerial benches had boasted of accessions of strength, and it was well to ascertain by a test-vote whether they had received any such accessions of strength—whether they had a majority of this House, in fact.—The hon. gentleman spoke at some length, and observed it was desirable to have a vote, so as to see whether any hon. members—although he believed there were none such—had allowed themselves to be inveigled over to the other side.

Hon. J. A. MACDONALD said the taunt about inveigling members came with a very bad grace, indeed, from the hon. gentleman opposite. He (Mr. Macdonald) had been accused of rewarding his friends; but he never could be charged with having purchased his enemies—thank God no such charge could be made against hon. gentlemen on this side (Hear, hear, and cheers.) They had never seduced members of this House—they had never dragged a member out of this House for the purpose of making him a judge—they had never brought down a judge and forced him to resign on a Friday or Saturday, so that they might bestow his place on another on the day following—they had never given silk gowns as rewards for political partisanship—nor grants from the Municipal Loan Fund either. (Cheers.) He (Mr. Macdonald) heard the hon. member for Kent (Mr. McKellar) laughing. No doubt, the hon. gentleman might well afford to laugh. (Hear, hear.)

The first act of his political friends was to appoint him to an office; and as an equivalent for this, the hon. gentleman (Mr. McKellar) went about like a mendicant friar, from one polling-place to another, preaching their political creed. (Laughter and cheers.)

The hon. member for Cornwall (Mr. J. S. Macdonald) said this was a vote of want of confidence—well, why did not the hon. member for Hochelaga (Mr. Dorion) and the hon. member for Chateauguy (Mr. Holton) say so? (Hear, hear.) The fact was that hon. gentlemen opposite thought this special motion would answer the purpose better than a general motion. But these hon. gentlemen would find when it came to vote that—without inveigling hon. members—without bestowing judge-ships or silk gowns—that the House and the country approved of the policy of the Government on general subjects, and the policy on the canal tolls in particular. (Loud cheers.)

Hon. Mr. HUNTINGTON followed in a speech of some length, arguing that the majority of the House were adverse to the Government, and that hon. gentlemen opposite were afraid of a test vote, because they knew they could not stand upon it.

Hon. Mr. GALT said the tenor of the language used by hon. gentlemen opposite just amounted to this—they had announced a certain course last night, and now they found they had been a little too fast. (Hear, hear.) If, as they said, the Government was existing only by their forbearance, then they were forgetful of their duty to the country. He repeated that if the Opposition believed, as some members on that side had stated, that the Government only existed by the mercy of their opponents, then it was their duty to turn this wicked Administration out of office for the benefit of the country. (Hear, hear.) After encouraging themselves so long, and screwing their courage up to the sticking point, members opposite were afraid to come to a direct vote of want of confidence at present. (Cheers and counter-cheers.) He believed that the House and country would approve of the measures brought down. The whole record of hon. gentlemen opposite, while in office, was one they ought to be ashamed of. The House had nothing from them but announcements of intentions never carried out. (Cheers.) They sacrificed the position they occupied without a blow, and it ill became them, one week after the House met, and only a few days after the members of the Government returned from their constituencies, to say they should again have power confided to them. If they were able to conduct the affairs of the country, they should have continued in the Government. They had abandoned the responsibilities of office because they felt they were unequal to them; and now they endeavored to offer a factious opposition to the Government that was desirous of going on with the business of the country. (Cheers.) The House would understand the motives of the gentlemen opposite, and in its intelligent support the Government had entire confidence. (Cheers.)

Mr. BEAUBIEN made some remarks in re-

ply to the speech of the hon. member for Cornwall (Mr. J. S. Macdonald) which were inaudible in the gallery. (Cries of "Question.")

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said that the hon. member for Kingston (Mr. J. A. Macdonald) had agreed with him that an adjournment should take place to-night, and he, therefore, thought it unfair in hon. gentlemen opposite to call for a vote.

Hon. Mr. CARTIER said that he, of course, understood that the hon. Attorney General West had acceded to a request from the hon. member for Chateauguy for an adjournment; but he (Mr. Cartier) had called out "Question," when the hon. member for Shefford (Mr. Huntington) went so far as to taunt the hon. Attorney General West with talking for the purpose of keeping up the courage of his friends. Hon. gentlemen on this side of the House repudiated the taunt. (Hear, hear.) They were ready to take the vote to-night—aye, they were ready to take it in ten minutes. (Cheers.) Let the Opposition have an hour's or two hours' or three hours' discussion of the question; and then let them take a division if they pleased. If the hon. member for Shefford (Mr. Huntington) thought hon. gentlemen on the Ministerial side were afraid of the result, let him get the arrangement made by the hon. member for Chateauguy withdrawn and take the vote at once. (Loud cheers.)

Hon. Mr. HOLTON was understood to say that he desired the adjournment as he wished to speak on the question of canal tolls.

Hon. Mr. CARTIER—Then let the hon. gentleman move the adjournment if he wants it.

Mr. RYAN made some remarks in reply to the Hon. Attorney General East.

The House, then, at one a.m., adjourned, on motion of Hon. Mr. Dorion.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

MONDAY, 16th May, 1864.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at three o'clock.

Several petitions were presented:

MANITOULIN ISLAND.

The Hon. Col. TACHE laid upon the table a return to an Address for all Orders in Council relating to the Manitoulin Islands, all instructions given to surveyors engaged in surveying the lands in said Islands, and the reports of such surveyors.

SUMMARY CONVICTIONS.

Hon. Mr. CURRIE reported from Select Committee on Bill to amend Summary Convictions Act, certain amendments to said bill, which were read and adopted, and the bill ordered to be printed and read a third time on Thursday next.

BILLS FROM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Mr. SPEAKER announced that he had received from the Legislative Assembly an Act to amend the Act relating to seduction and the care of illegitimate children; also a bill to change the Tenure of Indian lands in the Township of Dundee, in the County of Huntington, to both which bills the Assembly desired the concurrence of this House.

DEATH OF HON. MR. LEMIEUX.

Hon. Col. TACHE said it was his painful duty to announce to this House the death of the Hon. François Lemieux. Mr. Lemieux had for a number of years been a member of the Legislative Assembly, and had represented different constituencies at different times. He had also been a member of the Executive Council, and from the year 1854 to 1857, had been a colleague of his (Col. Tache's). He was a lawyer of good standing, and had for a long time enjoyed a lucrative practice in his profession. He was a man greatly and deservedly esteemed—kind and benevolent and possessed of a good heart, and had thus attached to himself a host of friends who would long regret his untimely decease, for he was still a comparatively young man. He would therefore move, that out of respect for the memory of the late François Lemieux, this House do now adjourn.

Hon. Mr. BLAIZ seconded the motion, and the House adjourned at half-past three o'clock.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

MONDAY, May 16, 1864.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at three o'clock.

After the reading and presentation of petitions and other routine business—

RETURNS.

Hon. Mr. SIMPSON laid on the table a number of returns, among which was—a return of monies paid to Messrs. Geo. Sheppard, W. Bristol, and T. S. Brown—also a return of the receipts and disbursements of the York Roads since their resumption by the Government.

VOLUNTEER INSPECTION.

Hon. Mr. ROSE enquired when the returns he had moved for, relative to the inspection of