Hon. Mr. Blair's Speech at Woodstock.

A MASTERLY REPLY TO OP-POSITION CANVASSES.

THE STUMPAGE, FISHERY, AND PUBLIC DEBT CHARGES DISCUSSED.

FEATURES OF THE FUTURE POLICY OF THE GOVERN-MENT OUTLINED.

A Speech That Has Already Rallied Hundreds of Electors to the Government Standard.

The meeting addressed by Hon. Mr. as well as from the border parishes of

a most effective address, covering many features of provincial politics not touched

thronged about the attorney general and his friends and stated that they had precludes us from publishing the speech

warmly received. He said:

as of a complimentary character. I think I might be justified in assuming as I look upon this magnificent audience, indictment with which my friend supthat there is, at all events, existing in this | plies me, the charge that the government county of Carleton some sentiment not has been unfriendly to the present administration. means consist of only those who have looked with favor upon the policy and conduct of the government with which I ably there are among you a number of persons who have come here to-night inspired, perhaps, by some curiosity to see and hear a person who has received so un-

and argument as I may be able to pre-

It will also be understood, unless other- | these filling the position I have had the honor of filling for a number of years in this province, asks the people to come and hear him, they will assume that his object is, and they may correctly assume in my case, that my object is to lay before them a statement of his management of the public business. My object is to impress the people of this county as favorably as I can with the way we have conducted your affairs, and I hope you will consider that I was justified in accepting the invitation so kindly tendered me and I do not think that the people of this constituency will take it amiss that I am here on this platform to-

night for this purpose. Now, a friend of mine has been good enough to put into my possession a very lengthy document in which he assured me there was contained a statement of

All the Charges that were Preferred Against this Government

so, because I think it is an exceedingly Now then, gentlemen, \$7,000 per year is favorable opportunity. We have just the amount we have made of absolute passed through a period of the year saving since we came into power. I am when we may be expected to re- taking it down to the very last moment gard with generous consideration the up to which the public accounts are acts of our fellow men, even though published, and this is the result. those men be politicians; a time when Blair and Mr. Wilson in the rink at Wood- by any political contest, but when you are has. But, gentlemen, it is not enough stock, on Monday evening, the 5th inst., in a calm and tranquil state of mind and for a man who challenges the conduct of with the county of Carleton. That while was the largest political gathering ever will therefore be able to hear and the government to say that we have inwhom were electors, embracing represen- or facts which may be urged to you in de- people wherein this debt has tatives from every section of the county, fence of the policy and conduct of the for what purpose has it been auggovernment. I must, however, proceed mented, and unless he York. Mr. Anderson and Mr. Colter were with as much despatch as possible to take the public that the also present, making the York represent up these various charges and in doing so under whose administration and office tation complete, and the quartette were I think perhaps it would be as well that this debt has actually been in-J. R. Murphy, the chairman, to whom least interest in one sense or least likely way and for improper purposes, there is see just what foundation there is for an is due, made a most appropriate and I have all these charges before me. The take hold of the public mind. Now, I eloquent introduction of premier Blair, list is at all events sufficiently long, and I | frankly acknowledge, Mr. Chairman, to | thought that the public accounts, which the chief speaker of the evening. Mr. | was quite alarmed when I came to examine | my friends here that the public debt has | are available for everybody, would have Blair spoke for over two hours and a half | the whole indictment in all its details to | grown in these years that we have been | attracted attention in contradiction of and was followed by Mr. Wilson who gave discover that the government was con- in power; that while it was something that statement, but I am happy to be

ed to be in the list before me. The meeting in every way was a grand | fully. I am not going to-night to express | is no man who regrets that this increase success and scores of people at its close to you any opinion as to whether the gov- has taken place any more than the First, let me tell you that from the year ernment has done right in the way in person who is now addressing you. 1874 down to the year 1882, the year which it has managed the public business, I would be very glad indeed if these voted opposition for the last time. Space I am going to show you how we have obligations of a previous legislature managed affairs and leave it to you to judge and, I say it without reflection at all, a as to whether that management has been | previous government, upon this country him credit and and enhanced his reputa- wise or unwise. I propose to state to you had not been imposed, and you would have tion as a rising politician in our province. the facts. I propose to put before you a been glad if the aggregate of our public statement which a gentleman here present obligations had not been swollen to the Hon. Mr. Blair on coming forward was | will take accurately in shorthand and | height it has now reached. But it is one | be an average of \$6500 per year. Well, which will be published throughout the thing, gentlemen, to regret it and it is a Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen | province, and if that statement can be suc- | totally different thing to mete out a con--I do not feel that I could properly ap- cessfully challenged no doubt it will be by demnation upon this government because propriate to myself the very compliment- those who are antagonistic to the govern- it has so increased. Now, I will tell you ary terms in which the Chairman has ment. I am going to make these statements | what the increase has sprung from and I been good enough to introduce me to you fully confident that they will be criticised have before me the public records which on this occasion. I do, however, feel and that they will pass in every detail give the items in detail. It has grown that to have the opportunity of addressing under the public eye, and after I have out of the subsidies which have been so large, and I am satisfied (coming from | made them, I will leave it to the people of | given that which I see before me, is a circum- I see before me to judge and to decide stance upon which I am entitled to con- whether they ought to conclude against gratulate myself and which I may accept or conclude in favor of the administration

of their affairs by the present government. Now, sir, there is as a first count in this

government, or when I sav entirely I am sponsibility that act carried with it.

the suggestion that I was coming here of the people that we have not expended the public to-night, not for the purpose of doing bat- as much upon roads and bridges as our prein the interests of the local government, decessors, or upon schools; that would ve the discussion of local questions, be rather an argument against the governnat as it is said to be the intention of ment and would be taken rather as a proegentleman now representing you at Ot-wa (Mr. Hale) to withdraw from further I have not classified that class of expendi-fre idacy, that I am here now for ture though I make general statement by with regard to then with regard to then

county as a future candidate for the than they were during any previous ad-

are carrying on your affairs at Fredericton. \$91,159. You understand me that upon purposes with the exception of two items

wise assumed, that when a man who is Four Classes of Controllable Expenditure which I have named the governmen which preceded us laid out in the five vears previous to our advent to power the sum of \$91000 per year. Now, what has this extravagant government done in the same direction. What has this government laid out upon the legislature, upor the executive, upon our salaries and the salaries of our staff, upon contingencies and upon public printing? If you will take up the public accounts you will find that in 1884 we laid out \$85000, in 1885, \$86,000, in 1886, \$82,000, in 1887, \$82,000, in 1888, \$83,000, and in 1889, \$84,000. I am giving simply the round figures-the odd hundreds I am not including in the yearly statement but I include them in the total -making a total of \$505,000 for the six years or an average for each year of \$84,316 - a comparison, of which no man can challenge the accuracy, in favor of this government, which is so wasteful and extravagant and which these gentlemen as far as he could learn in this county and are desirous to supplant, by over \$7,000 used as canvassas against us. I have per year upon those items of expenditure these charges before me now and it will which you do not wish to see the governbe my design as rapidly and yet as fully ment increase and which it is in your as i can, to cover all the ground, to take up interest to have reduced. (Applause). all the various counts in the indictment | These savings may go, as they do go, to which was preferred here in the election | swell that larger class of expenditure in of January last against the present ad- which you are more deeply interested and ministration. I am happy to be able to which you desire to see increased, because avail myself of this opportunity of doing they touch directly the public welfare.

Now, it is said, there has been a great as it happens you are not agitated increase in the public debt. Well, so there consider and digest with all the con- creased the public debt. He must needs sideration they are entitled to any reasons go further, and he must needs tell the I should first refer to those subjects of creased have increased it in an improper to attract the attention of my audience. nothing whatever in the argument to sidered so great a sinner as it is represent- over \$1,100,000 in 1883, when we came into power, to-day it is \$2,100,000. It Now, I propose to meet these questions has grown a million of dollars, and there from which I think you will have no

this county) so intelligent an audience as this county and the fairminded audience Towards the Construction of Railways either to their credit or to ours. I therethroughout this province almost in its entirety. With the exception of two items I will speak of later, this added million sive, the amount expended in the county has grown out of the railway obligations of Carleton for great roads and bridges which the legislature in 1882 placed upon | was \$74,462., an average of \$12,500, or an the statute-book of the country - legis- addition from year to year of \$6,000 in lation the effect of which was to promise excess of the amount that was laid out simply because they had not come up as three. "And shall include all (mark you) a subsidy to every company in point upon your great roads and bridges by the promptly as the others (for very good or at least the most important of the lines of fact that had been incorporated and preceding government. (Applause). \$6 (Applause). I assume, Mr. Chairman, Well, we know that governments are named and included in that act, that they 500 was their average expenditure. In that this large gathering does not by any always charged with being extravagant. would if they fulfilled the conditions always charged with being extravagant. would if they fulfilled the conditions are named and included in that act, that they are asked the and have charters; and that no provincial There is no charge which can be so easily which the act imposed be entitled to re- in 1876 it was \$8,000; in 1877 it was possible and that no provincial aid should be given to any lines of railway made—no charge which is more freely ceive a subsidy from the country of \$3,000 | \$7,000; in 1878 it was \$6,000; in 1879 it | branch of it to give its assent—to our included in the act of I882 until proviand carelessly made against all govern- a mile. Well, the public debt has grown was \$3,000; in 1880 it was \$6,000; in ments than that they are extravagant. as I have said in that way, and in so 1881 it was \$10,000; in 1882 it was \$7,000; ly to its leader. I recognize that prob- Any man whether he has any knowledge growing, what man is there who can making an average of \$6,500 per year on and Woodstock company, for a subsidy to Now, gentlemen, this was the altermatical making an average of \$6,500 per year on and woodstock company, for a subsidy to Now, gentlemen, this was the altermatical making an average of \$6,500 per year on and woodstock company, for a subsidy to lead the said in that way, and in so making an average of \$6,500 per year on lead the said in that way, and in so making an average of \$6,500 per year on lead the said in that way, and in so lead to the said i of public affairs or not can charge the justly say that this government did wrong your great roads and bridges during those their roads. Well, what happened when native proposition. On the one hand government with extravagance. One in carrying out in a spirit of fairness and nine years. During our six years closman with a limited idea as to how a integrity the obligations which the legis- ing with the year 1889, the figures government should be carried on will lature in 1882, the representatives of the were: In 1884, \$10,000; in 1885 it was stinted a share of compliment and at- think it extravagant if it spends \$100, people, put upon the statute-book? We \$18,000; in 1886 it was \$15,000; in 1887 it tention during all these years from a sec- while another will think it parsimonious. would be unworthy the character of men was \$8,000; in 1888 it was \$10,000; in but it was none the less patent. I saw my- of the governor years before and only tion of the public press. I presume there As a matter of fact all governments have —we would be running counter to those 1889 it was \$11,000, making an average of who, while you are not distinctly unbe charged with extravagance. But as ever been the possession of British reprea comparison between this government or in the power of be charged with extravagance. But as ever been the possession of British reprea comparison between this government or in the power of be charged with extravagance. But as ever been the possession of British reprea comparison between this government or in the power of be charged with extravagance. But as ever been the possession of British reprea comparison between this government or in the power of be charged with extravagance. But as ever been the possession of British reprefriendly to the government, have yet this government has been charged with sentative bodies if we had failed to mete and its predecessors as respects its expenperhaps heard and read such state- extravagance I think it right that I should out to all these companies included in diture upon your great roads and bridges? of the government and the leaders and ture, and the country to what policy? ments as to the way in which we have tell you what we have done compared that act the same measure of even-handed There are the figures and they speak others of the opposition, whereby they Why, gentlemen, let me tell you that been conducting your affairs that you with our predecessors. I am going to justice. To say that we as a government trumpet-tongued to each of you. They have begun to feel some doubt as to state what the revenue and what the ex- should say to the Kent Northern, "Gen- are capable of immediate verification, and ment and compel us to enter into and emwhether we are proper men to be penditure of the province has been during themen, you shall have a subsidy," and to do not they sustain the inference which bark upon a large railway scheme before covered by the amendment that the entrusted with your destinies, and the years we have been in power as com- a railway to be constructed from Petit- any man of you, if so disposed, may draw they would give their consent to our leader of the opposition moved and that whether it would not be in the public in- pared with the same number of years codiac to Elgin, "No, you shall not have that, whatever other charges may be carrying out the contract obligations your representative supported. And how terest that some change should be made.

| Pared with the same number of years counacto Eigin, No, you shall not have that, whatever other charges may be carrying out the contract configuration away and pass to the grantees all the fisheries, with this single solitary addition which the legislature had placed already under our predecessors. I am going to a subsidy "is surely to make fish of one preferred against this government, and in the contract configuration with the legislature had placed already under our predecessors. I am going to a subsidy "is surely to make fish of one preferred against this government, and in the contract configuration with the legislature had placed already under our predecessors. I am going to a subsidy "is surely to make fish of one preferred against this government, and in the contract configuration with the legislature had placed already under our predecessors. I am going to a subsidy "is surely to make fish of one preferred against this government, and in the contract configuration with the legislature had placed already under our predecessors. I am going to a subsidy "is surely to make fish of one preferred against this government, and in the contract configuration with the legislature had placed already under our predecessors. I am going to a subsidy "is surely to make fish of one preferred against this government, and in the contract configuration with the contract contract configuration with the contract conf And I presume there are among you a show you what the present condition of and flesh of another and to outrage those all conscience we have had charges upon the statute-book. Among the rest \$2,000,000. Now, the leader of the opthird class who have not seen anything the public debt is and what the position sentiments of public justice and those sentiin our conduct that merits condemnation of the public debt was at the time we ments of public honor which prevail be made against us, the accusation of son. These gentlemen co-operated and ment, that the government, before going and who are disposed if they had it in came into power, and I am going to show throughout our land. I would not take the having dealt illiberally and unjustly with their power to continue the government | you how the increase has come about. I responsibility of doing it and I venture to | the county of Carleton as compared with | ton, the leader of the opposition. They | 1882, must agree to give subsidies upon of the country in our hands a longer term. am going to make a fair, and I think a say there is no man in public life in this the preceding government does not lie at had their meetings and caucuses, and all "or at least the most important." If I have correctly gauged the senti- complete comparison, and I will leave you country to-day, I care not how anxious he our door. (Applause). ment, therefore, of the three classes in to draw your own conclusions therefrom, may be to secure the seals of office or Now, I will take occasion at this incubation produced a motion which they out that resolution all would not be inthis audience, I think I will be entitled which I venture to think will not be unto expect from this whole audience, both favorable to the present administration. treasury benches, who would do other which I must confess I entertained at the friends and opponents, that they will give Now, there are some items of expenditions who would have close of the election in January last when subsidy to these roads which had not government is committed in this way;

ower we have received this county might possible n government a sum of different verdict. \$800,000 by way of . V. I ha

county of Carleton. Now, Mr. Chairman, items which are included under the heads | between the several provinces. While | supplies me with a statement that a | with candor and with decency, then I | scheme; because we would not reach out | and put \$10,000 or \$20,000 in his pockets while there is no county in this prov- I have named, such as public printing, con- we have added \$1,000,000, or a little charge has been made against this govince, outside of my own, that I would lingencies of government, expenses of the lover, to the public debt in carrying ernment, which I think I recognize as fairs at all, nor do I think I recognize as fairs at all, nor do I think I recognize as be more pleased to have the honor of legislature and of the executive govern- out these railway obligations, we have at being somewhat of a special Carleton expect decent men to remain in public and let me tell you in all fairness and for a moment. All these people on these the same time received from the dominion | county grievance. I mean by that a | life. I did, as I have said, severely criti-I think I may fairly take you into my Now, Mr. Chairman, that statement government, the largest portion of which grievance, if there is a grievance at all, confidence to-night and say that any such put briefly is this: The expenditure is to our credit at Ottawa, this sum of beconfidence to-night and say that any such ulterior purpose has never entered my under these four heads by the government brought in a separate of the confidence to-night and say that any such under these four heads by the government brought in a separate of the confidence to-night and say that any such under these four heads by the government brought in a separate of the confidence to-night and say that any such under these four heads by the government brought in a separate of the confidence to-night and say that any such under these four heads by the government brought in a separate of the confidence to-night and say that any such under these four heads by the government and went into violent and the confidence to-night and say that any such under these four heads by the government brought in a separate of the confidence to-night and say that any such under these four heads by the government brought in a separate of the confidence to-night and say that any such under these four heads by the government brought in a separate of the confidence to-night and say that any such under these four heads by the government and went into violent and the confidence to-night and say that any such under the separate of the confidence to-night and say that any such under the separate of the confidence to-night and say that any such under the separate of the confidence to-night and say that any such under the separate of the confidence to-night and say that any such under the confidence to-night and say that any such under the confidence to-night and say that any such under the confidence to-night and say that any such under the confidence to-night and say that any such under the confidence to-night and say that any such under the confidence to-night and say the confidence to-

fair county of Carleton other than desir- in 1880, \$81000, in 1881, \$89000, in 1882, not all that money there at the present resolution for a subsidy to the Fredericton Dr Atkinson's Fair and Bounden Duty ing it to have its people furnished with \$92000; making a total for the five years time. Though we have added to the and Woodstock railway during the session to have come to me and said: "Mr. a correct view of the way in which we of \$455,000, an average for each year of public debt by about a million for railway of 1888, and that the I am going shortly to refer to, we have at the same time withdrawn \$187,000 from our credit at Ottawa, and I will tell you how we have withdrawn it and for what purpose. We withdrew \$45,000 for the purpose of building an annex to the lunatic asylum in the city and county of St. John, \$84,000 in payment for the Fredericton bridge, \$37,000 for the pur pose of paying for the new departmental buildings, and \$22,000 for the purpose of paying for other special and permanent bridges which we have constructed. So that there has been \$187,000 withdrawn from the balance at Ottawa, which leaves \$567,000, or say \$500,000 in round figures, which will fairly be placed against the million which has been added to the debt during the time which I have mentioned. Now, that is a full and correct statement of the financial condition of the province. We have so far as those classes of expenditure are concerned which are within the legitimate and proper control of the government and which you desire to see reduced to the smallest possible limit,

> dition of the province. But I am told by my friend, who has thus supplied me with the data for my speech to-night, that there is put forward in this county a general statement, specifically charged and made, that the government has been

carried on by the government, with an in-

creasing population and in the face of

necessary modern improvements, with

which many of you are no doubt familiar

and we have only added to the public

debt for the purposes I have already

Doing Everything for York County and has not dealt in a just and liberal spirit our public works expenditures have been larger in other directions, and larger upon the roads and bridges in York and other counties in the province, that Carleton county has a just ground of complaint because of the parsimonious and illiberal spirit in which we have dealt with her public services. Well since that charge has been made, let us to the law and testimony, let us to the public records and accusation of that kind against the present administration. I would have able to furnish you to-night with specific and conclusive evidence upon that point. difficulty in drawing your own conclusion. preceding the advent of the present government to power, the gross expenditure upon the great roads and bridges of Carleton aggregated \$58,430. covered the whole expenditure upon the great roads and bridges of Carleton county during those years, which would now, we have been in power six full

years. I do not take into account the

year 1883, because our friends who preceded us were in power part of that year -they were in power four months of that year and we were in power the balance - so that it would not be possible for me to make a fair and just calculation if I were to include the year 1883 in it fore drop 1883 out from my statement. and I find that from 1884 to 1889, inclu-

to my statements and to such reasoning diture entirely within the control of the hesitated to accept the full measure of re- I found that the county of Carleton had before taken advantage of the act. Well, you need not look for any escape short of not unitedly pronounced in our favor. I I am told that my friend Dr. Atkinson — the outside limit. But we will suppose using that term in a relative sense. There Now, that is what we have added to the was disappointed at the result of that I am not going to speak of him with disation, and that they will take an op- are such items as those connected with the public debt. Mr. Chairman, I am election in Carleton because I thought if respect, because he is your representative, railway pressure when it had once been portunity - perhaps not now, because the salaries of the executive, the executive that the moment of debate is not always an op- their staff and with the carrying on of make any reflection upon the men who New Brunswick with which the govern- here with respect—I believe he claims I venture to say, 500 out of the 700 miles, portune moment to do so - to weigh care- the general executive governmental in this respect were directly responsible ment had endeavored to deal fairly and that I dealt with him severely, or sat which would be \$1,500,000 added to the fully what I shall say to-night in defence machine. There are other expenditures for that legislation. I may say frankly upon which it had claims for fair and reof the government, and endeavor thereby such as the legislative expenditure contact as a sonable consideration it was the county of weight. I am not at all conscious that which the leader of the opposition pronected with the maintenance of the legis- the time the act passed in 1882 while the of Carleton. I have only been able to con- I performed any such squelching operation posed, and which the member for Caras to whether we ought to be approved lature, the pay of the members of the other government were in power and I clude that the result was owing to the as is attributed to me. I am not sure that leton supported. Now, this was the alterhouse and of the staff connected with that voted for the act. While I reluctantly indefatigable and it appears successful I am competent to do it; all I am compe There are a good many people, I may body. There is another class of expendidid so, I voted for it because it included efforts that I expressed some insay, Mr. Chairman, who are very apt to tures that we call contingencies, which a subsidy for a bridge that ran across the the people of this county what our treatdiscern in any step which is at all include all the incidentals which arise out river and for a railway in my own county, ment of it had been and what our policy taken the course he did take when he of that magnitude? You only need and some at \$1.00 per acre, thus getting fishery legislation. So far from condemnunusual on the part of a public man, of the carrying on of the government and I did not and I do not profess to be able to an occult design or an ulterior purpose, I have classified another distinct body of resist the influences which commonly and had been. And, Mr. Chairman, it is, I professed friend of the government; when pay the interest on the public debt, the came possessed of the lots, or a purchaser proval of what we were proposing to and I have not been able to accept expenditures under the head of public ordinarily affect representative men and I the kind and complimentary invitation printing. Outside of these classes, I have voted for the act which I dealing with us and we with him in a for the subsidizing of railways, some of fishing to persons from the United States it was a very proper thing for us to make extended to me a few weeks ago to not particularly specified the public expen- of that day had promoted. So that it then experienced and because of the conaddress the people of Carleton on the diture, and I have not done so for the will be understood that I do not refer to viction that accompanied it that it was sent to the legislature as our friend and the utmost use or benefit to the country. any of you should have occasion at any would be very beneficial because the political issues of the day, without hav- reason that they include the money this subject for the purpose of casting any only through misrepresentation and error supporter. I took occasion to point out But we are paying, and will continue, for time to visit the river Restigouche or people could grow trees along, and political issues of the day, without having a great deal of suspicion attached to laid out upon the public works and on reflection upon the government or the

> nancial condition of the come around we politician her observation. Since enough in all conscience) a overnment and its friends. If a man

The Eastern Extension Claim, dull and uninteresting I am very glad in- he may undermine and still be thought the house and because we would not agree D in order, that A,B,C, or D might be able mind; that I have no designs upon the ment in 1878 was \$96000, in 1879, \$86000, entirely accurate, \$754,000. Now, we have said the government brought in a separate was

Centreville and Woodstock Road which was included in the act of 1882, was that requires assistance; true I have not entirely ignored, and I understand that it was, as has been alleged here no doubt subject, but I want to have you now state and in different parts of this county that that you will give to this railway your it was, because of the action of the govern- approval and will introduce a subsidy ment in respect of that railway question act, including a subsidy for my railthat one of your representatives who way, but if you will not do these things formerly was a supporter of the govern- then I want you to understand that I will ment and who was elected in 1886 as such, be compelled to withdraw my support from withdrew his support and placed himself | the government. I want to treat you fairly, in opposition. Now, Mr. Chairman, the I want to give you fair notice, that I canmeeting will pardon me I am sure if I not, unless this is done, continue to give take a few minutes to just spread out be- your government my support." Why if fore them a brief history of this railway Dr. Atkinson had done this I would have subject. You will remember - I think respected him; I would have pointed I have already stated it to you - that as early as 1882 the legislature passed a gen- in 1882 did not cover the railway from eral subsidy act which included a great | Hartland to Forreston which, it is said, he number of railways and which, when was deeply interested in. I would have they were all subsidized, involved an ex- pointed out that if we had then opened penditure of something like I think \$1,- | the door for a new railway, we would open 750,000. Among the different railroads the door for twenty; that when you add which were so subsidized or included was \$20,000 to the debt for one railway, you run one which I will call the Fredericton and the risk of adding \$1,500,000 or \$2,000,000, Woodstock railway - that is not the ex- and I would have asked him whether he act name but that was the road - but was prepared as the representative of this there was not included in that act of 1882 | county, which is anxious as every county the railway known as the Woodstock and of like intelligence is to keep the public Centreville railway. That railway was debt within as reasonable a limit as posnot projected and certainly the company | sible, to take the responsibility of favoring and which adds to the departmental cost, was not incorporated until some years such a policy as that? But he did not affor \$7,000 a year less than our predecessors subsequent to the passing of the legislathat act of 1882 under which the legisla- have read, a confidential communication detailed. So much for the financial con- ture reserved the right to the house of I addressed to him stating frankly before assembly (not to both branches but to the opening of the legislature what we

with that company to procure from one sir, when the time came we applied to the legislature to give their consent. We Charlotte, a company in St. John and a ion and this was the motion that Mr. company with one end in Carleton and Hanington made: omitting certain

them the benefit of the act of 1882 to point I am making. upon as a government to at once embark companies, among the rest the Frederic- other lines of railway."

e legislature by the voice of the

Blair. I am sorry to see the course you are taking; I have a railway up in my county communicated with you heretofore on the out to him that the act which was passed

pose to do, and which I thought I was free this fishery question. We have heard of emenated from the dominion parlia the act after 250 miles should be subsi- to communicate as between one gentleman it almost everywhere but where the and were not passed by the legislature of dized. It was true that when the appli- and another without having that letter fishery question is a live issue. We have this province. And yet an election takes cation was made by the gentlemen who read as a public document and before a heard it in York — we have heard it on place in Victoria, and somebody goes up had incorporated the road from Wood- public assembly. But he did not take the uplands, in the backlands and on the the Tobique river and tells those people stock to Fredericton for a subsidy, that that view and perhaps I may have mountains - everywhere it has been made who have been used to spearing and netthe 250 mile limit had been exceeded, dealt somewhat too severely with him, a leading staple in the political discussion ting without interference that the local and it was necessary for the government but the occasion was one in which any of these inland counties, but in the government has passed a law that they before they could enter into a contract person under the same circumstances counties of Restigouche, Gloucester and should not spear and should not enjoy would have been much moved, and I ex- Northumberland, counties where salmon there the old time privilege of going on branch of the legislature (the representa- pressed perhaps even more strongly than fishing has reached a degree of develop- in front of their lots and spearing a fish, tive branch) the assent of that branch to I have to night the extent of the disap- ment and magnitude which we have no and therefore they ought to vote agains the contract being entered into. Well, probation with which I regarded his conception of over here - in those counties the local government and put them ou t Now, let us come to this matter of the also included in the resolution two or resolution. The government made that three other small railways that had not proposal and notwithstanding what I have been up to that time subsidized but were said to you, a motion was made by the included in the general legislative auth- leader of the opposition, in amendment of ority of 1882, and we thereby about my motion which received Dr. Atkinsons cleaned up, I think I am correct in saying, support. I had no congnizance of the fact

all the railways that were included in from himself that Dr. Atkinson was operatthe subsidy act of 1882. Well, when this | ing with the opposition and intending to question came up before the house it ap- vote against the government on a motion of pears there were some representatives who want of confidence on this railway quesdesired that other railroads should be tion, until Mr. Hanington rose in his place subsidized as well as the ones we pro- and moved the motion I am now about to posed. They knew thoroughly well, none | read to you. Now what was the proposal knew better, that we could not by a reso- that was brought before the legislature? lution of the house of assembly authorize | What had the people's representatives to a subsidy to be given to any company choose between? On the one hand the that was not included in the act of 1882, government proposed to carry out the and they knew thoroughly well that it obligations of the previous legislature would be absolutely necessary that the the contract that the people of this country government should determine upon a had entered into with companies incorppolicy of railway subsidizing generally - orated for the building of these several

should embark upon a new scheme - roads. On the other hand there was the should lay out its lines and spread out its alternative proposal moved by Mr. Hanpolicy before the country with reference ington and supported by your own repreto a new subsidy act, before another road sentative, Mr. Atkinson and five or six not included in the act of 1882 could re- others in the legislature. Well, I will tell ceive one dollar of subsidy. Well, we you precisely what that counter proposal did not feel as a government that when was. I have before me now the official these companies (there was a company in records of what transpired on that occas-

the other in York), applied to us to give portions which do not effect the general "Resolved. That any action of the government or any measure authorizing upon a new railway scheme and thus add provincial aid to railways should be genimmensely to the railway debt and the eral and not sectional."—you will observe railway obligations of the country. We the word sectional. I do not know what felt that those roads which were included that means. I suppose that it shall inin the original act, should not be refused, clude a number of roads and not two or cluded in that act, we had to treat them province which have been incorporated

a moving of the waters; there was evi- were already subsidized under the act of dence of discontent. It was not open, it 1882, which had passed the house and was not not above board, it was not public, passed the council and received the assent

they at last as the product of their joint | Well, we will suppose that in working the acceptance, on my part, of that invi- the roads and bridges of the country, legislature which passed that act; I am ed, that I was led to entertain the hope his conduct. I thought if Dr. Atkinson this debt and already one-sixth of the protation, and a good deal of anxiety mani- upon schools, upon the maintenance of merely referring to it in self-defence and in at all events that when the facts were put was not satisfied with the government's vincial revenue is absorbed in paying and ask any of the people living along the ing you to condemn us although we did it fested as to whether I was not here the lunatic asylum, upon the interest of answer to that which many of you know before the people of this county, when course in thus seeking to carry out its interest on bonds issued on account of railto-night for the purpose not of defending the public debt; all these other items I was put forward throughout this they were put before the intelligence of present obligations. Is it a wise or judicious fishing in front of their lands and they that law was put on the statute-book in the government, but of compassing some have not gone into, as you will see, for county in the canvass of January last this county, because no man needs to be a new scheme of this magnitude, that it policy—are the people going to support will tell you every man of them, no last a new scheme of this magnitude, that it policy—are the people going to support will tell you every man of them, no last a new scheme of this magnitude, that it policy—are the people going to support will see, for county in the canvass of January last this county, because no man needs to be a new scheme of this magnitude, that it policy—are the people going to support will see, for county in the canvass of January last this county, because no man needs to be a new scheme of this magnitude, that it policy—are the people going to support will see, for county in the canvass of January last this county, because no man needs to be a new scheme of this magnitude, that it policy—are the people going to support will see, for county in the canvass of January last this county, because no man needs to be a new scheme of this magnitude, that it policy—are the people going to support will see, for county in the canvass of January last this county, because no man needs to be a new scheme of the needs other totally different design. It was only fair and obvious reason that against the government — namely that told that the county of Carleton is expected was only fair and only generous that he government — namely that told that the county of Carleton is expected was only fair and only generous that he government — namely that told that the county of Carleton is expected was only fair and only generous that he government — namely that told that the county of Carleton is expected was only fair and only generous that he government — namely that told that the county of Carleton is expected was only fair and only generous that he government — namely that told that the county of Carleton is expected was only fair and only generous that he government — namely that told that the county of Carleton is expected was only fair and only generous that he government — namely that told that the county of Carleton is expected was only fair and only generous that the government — namely that told that the government — namely that told that the county of Carleton is expected was only fair and only generous that the government — namely that told that the government — namely that told that the county of Carleton is expected was only fair and only generous that the government — namely that told that the government — namely that the gov other totally different design. It was only the very simple and obvious reason that against the government—hamely that all only generous come to me as the leader of the should have come to me as the should have come to me as the should have come to me as the should have come to papers which we publish in Fredericton which to claim the favorable consideration and unduly augmenting and increasing acity to understand public questions, the his party and communicated to me the \$100,000, to our interest burden account, paid them thousands of dollars for the visions in any one respect been suggested. result might be - indeed I cherished the difficulties with which he was embarassed. thus absorbing one-third of the whole fishing pools that lay in front of their Not one single solitary suggestion! It is state the whole case to hope that it would be — that when anoth- Gentlemen, you cannot carry on party revenue of the country for the purpose of grant. One man received \$20,000 last reserved until an election is pending in

popporter or ally of a party, because in agreeing to any such policy as an acre, or under the labor

vigue, it he may cabal, if Mat. But this was the alternative before of them were disposed of

direct antagonism to us. Everything sible opportunity in all cases of parting mendable before, from that instant for- a liberal consideration for it. ward, from the moment we failed to agree | Now, the question we had to decide to launch out into this tremendous sea in then, as a government, was whether we the boat with Mr. Hanington on such a ever it was, belong to the people of the wild and reckless venture as this, from country, not to you or me, not to A, B or that moment down to the present this | C, but to everybody, and whatever ingovernment has been unable to do an act | come or revenue was capable of being de or perform a deed, to promote a legislative | rived from it should be derived for the which has received the approval or com- into the provincial exchequer, or whether mendation of that gentleman or those who as theretofore these valuable rights were acting with him. (Loud applause). | should be given away for a song as a mat-Well now, gentlemen, I leave it to you — ter of profit and speculation to the gran-I am not going to express any opinion as tee. That was the question we had to you will observe upon this question, at determine, and we think when the peoall, but I will leave it to you to say, as | ple of the country know the whole quesjurymen deciding between the opposition | tion they will say we decided properly. then and the opposition now and the But that is not the real grievance after like to see the Woodstock and Centreville St pping the People from Spearing and railway subsidized, not think that you

up is one of some magnitude.

The Fishery Question. one) to withold its assent to a contract proposed to do and what we did not pro- Well, we have heard a great deal about the privilege of netting, those laws have you hear nothing at all of the fishery of power. That was the result up in the policy, at all events in connection with parish of Lorne on the river Tobique in any misconduct of the government. You | the county of Victoria, all the while i have to come over here where some of being true that the legislature of this these gentlemen have never cast a fly in | province or the government of this protheir lives - to gentlemen some of whom | vince had and has no power if they had know a fishing rod from a handspike, and pass any legislation regulating in the privileges in front of them and which had | willing to pay for them as much as \$250. formerly been the property of the crown, 000, on these rivers of the North Shore

those valuable fishing fronts. We, there- than that any spirit of up fore as soon as we came into power, put the poor settlers of the upon the statute book a law to this effect: to curtail their rights and priv rivers - that is any rivers where there fore you. We have done nothing more

Reserved Along the front of Those

a margin of four rods, so that we would in the crown land department for his been done down to the stream, it would | the past. way we could prevent that was to make a | these gentlemen who have attacked the reservation of four rods in the grant along government in this vigorous fashion the front, as I have described. But we from Dr. Atkinson, Mr. Stockton, Mr. have invariably acted on this provision - gentlemen-in strongest condemnation of that the person who might receive the the government, in the several counties grant, though it would contain this re- wherever they have been addressing the servation, would have the full right of electors on the eve of recent elections. way over and no interference with his how grossly iniquitous is our four rod going backwards and forwards upon this law and how bad our conduct and manand cultivate and even build upon and do in 1884, the government, passed the law anything in the way of using the four rods | which is now upon the statute-book there that he pleases, only that he has not the | was not a voice raised against it among title to the four rods down to the stream, the opposition. Although Mr. Hanington for if he had the title to the four rods as I was there, although Mr. Wetmore was have explained to you it would carry the there (many of these gentlemen now in

fishing privileges in front of the land with the house, Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Alward Let me give you an idea of what these but these other gentlemen were there me add to what I have er election should come around they government in the world unless there is increasing the railway mileage of this summer, I am credibly informed, for the the country of Victoria or York or elsesoon some species of honor and fair-play be- province, already the greatest according fishing pools in front of his land. Is it where. It is outside of the legislature that ele of tween the leader and his party - the toulation of any country in the world? reason or common sense that the men might feel like doing it; I am | ment of this country should be to confess that I have very much re- to go on disposing of fishing p

dominion house of commons from the ministration. But I have taken up those and by way of readjustment of debt deed that I have done so. My friend to be treating a government with fairness, to embark upon this vast and tremenlous to make himself independently rich for life;

which had been just, proper and com- with their fishing when they are offered which these gentlemen were willing to would retain the residue of these properembark - because we refused to get into ties to the crown - let the value, what-

proposal or to propose a public policy, common and universal benefit and go

government of the present, whether you all. The grievance which chiefly evokes would yourselves, much as you would these scalding torrents of grief is that of

would be paying a great price - whether Let me tell you, so far as that is concerned you would not be placing upon the that the legislature of this province has shoulders of the people of this country no control whatever over that subject at too great a burden, advantageous and all all. We have no power whatever to say as that railway no doubt would be to the that the people may or may not net or people of one section of this county, in spear or to regulate at all in any way or order to secure for yourself the construc- shape the exercise of the privilege of fishing. The dominion government pos-Now, gentlemen, I pass from the charge sesses that jurisdiction, and possesses to which is embodied in the third count of exclusively and entirely, and whatever lating the mode or manner in which the people may fish, whatever laws there are restricting the right to spear or curtailing

(I mean some of the candidates) do not the will - had no authority whatever to they will tell you that the fishery policy | minutest particular the privilege or the of the government is most injurious. I right of fishing in any shape or form. All have heard and even seen some candidates | that we ever did was as I have said: We before the people, weep scalding tears passed the law which controlled only the while they narrated the grievous wrongs | ungranted crown lands. We said that so imposed upon these poor fishermen in the | far as the ungranted crown lands are conremote settlements of the country who cerned we will not give a man under the are not allowed to spear or net or fish, labor act - we will not give a man at owing to the abominable legislation this | public sale - we will not permit anybody government had put upon the statute | who may come along, A, B or C, to absort book. Well, gentlemen, I am going to these ungranted fishing fronts on the give you, if you will hear me patiently, a rivers of this province but keep them for little narrative of this fishery question, the general public; in time they will be and if I have to refer to history, do not valuable; to-day they are yielding us fancy because I am going a good ways \$10,000 a year in revenue, and in ten or back that I will trespass much upon your fifteen years hence perhaps they will be time. When this government came into worth \$20,000 a year and perhaps very power we found that the fisheries of the much more. I will venture to say that if country were exceedingly valuable. We the crown was willing to sell the privileges found that they had been growing in which it owns, restricted as they are, curvalue and that their value was very tailed as they are by what I must think generally recognized. We found that was the impolicy of our predecessors we almost all the lands which had fishing | would be able to get from men who are

had been granted, and of course the fish- alone. And yet there are those who will ing pools on these rivers (the property in | say that we ought to throw them away them) had passed with the grants, which | and give them to Tom, Dick and Harry. of course would be necessarily the case because in doing what we have done we with all grants which lay along the shore have been interfering with the privileges

or banks of these fishing rivers. We of the poor settlers. Now, there is no found that a very small number of those man living and I do not think any bod valuable fishing pools, which at one time of men who would be more desirous of belonged to the crown, remained, and we aiding the poor settlers to the extent of thought that it would be good policy in their ability than the members of the us, that it would be in the public interest | present government, or than I would mythat we should take a course which would self. No charge more illfounded and un-

That thereafter there should be no grant impelled us to the action we took on this issued of the front or shore of any fishing question. I have put the actual facts bewere salmon fishing pools - without there and nothing less than I have told you. We do not interfere with any man who had his grant or with any person who had before our law passed filed an application

be able to retain in the crown the property grant. We simply said, the time has in the fishing. There was no other pos- come when we will not sacrifice this valusible way by which it would be in our able property of the crown; we will keep in these fishing pools except by limiting may of it we will reserve these valuable the grant to within a distance of three or revenue producing properties to the four rods of the edge of the stream. If people of the country and not part with we had bounded the grant as had always | them as they have been parted with in convey the rights to the grantee to the | Now, that is all I think I need remark middle of the stream, which would take to-night upon the question of the

were careful to make this provision and Hanington, Mr. Alward and all these four rod front, he has the liberty to use agement of the fishery question, vet when, ted They did not v [00] in the house

ay all proper cons

claims might

and where their

offeet. And