

proximity with the American frontier, but do not suppose more cautious plan. As he had quoted from Mr. Chandler's exposition, he would take occasion to say that he did not approve of that gentleman's proposition to give away the lands along the line, as it would ultimately be of great value to it, but in his opinion be wiser policy to retain the public domain and raise the required amount in cash.

It would be better to let the country know at once how much was wanted and let it end there; but under the circumstances it would be prudent to place the power of expenditure in the House; and then, if it was deemed expedient to construct a water terminus at Saint John, liberty could be granted by resolution. He, however, had some doubts as to whether the Bill before the House did repeal the law of 1856. With regard to the branch lines he did not think that from Fredericton would be constructed, but this clause was inserted in the Bill to trap and catch "offish" members. It was not his desire to repeal the act of 1856, but he did wish to prevent the Government from contracting any further debt without the consent of the Legislature.

Mr. CROCKER said that the time spent in debating this question from year to year had cost a great amount of money; and he saw no good result arising from it. The Railway was now built from Shediac, almost to Saint John, and he would like to see it finished and carried out to the City. He wanted to have a deep water terminus; because, as it was now, any person purchasing goods in St. John for transportation by Railway was subjected to the expense of cartage from the place of purchase to the Railway Station. He would like to see the road completed; and that would not be until it was pushed to deep water.

Mr. KERR said, that an impression seemed to prevail in the House that this Bill would repeal the Act of 1856, which provided for extension to Quebec. He had no intention that it should have that effect, but merely to suspend the operation of the law authorizing the Government to issue debentures for Railway purposes. In Nova Scotia the amount required on account of construction was put in the estimates and voted by the House, but it was not so here. He found that in one instance \$40,000 was drawn out of the Treasury, and paid to the Chief Commissioner, and he could see no authority for such payment. It appeared that the Treasurer had paid out large sums to the Commissioners without authority from the Government by warrant. It appeared that the Treasurer had advanced sums from time to time during the year, and that in the month of September, a warrant was issued for the whole amount he had advanced.

It was then proposed by the Attorney General to create a sinking fund by means of the lands along the route; but it was now pretty well understood how those lands were disposed of, and into whose hands large quantities of it had passed. The Attorney General had calculated that it would cost \$25,000 per mile, and even admitting that the Government of 1856 thought it would cost no more, there were matters that had transpired since that was worthy of particular notice.

The question involved was, ought we to stop the work in the present state of the finances? or was it prudent and judicious to do so? He thought it was. He found that the money was going on, year after year, although it had been decided over and over again, that the road was finished. In order to settle this matter appear plain, he would quote from the report of the Chief Commissioner of 1860. On page 17th, he found the following:

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It is generally acknowledged that Christian ministers as a whole, do more to promote the temporal and spiritual well being of society than any other class of mankind. No marvel that such is the fact. Their special business is to do good. They are chosen and qualified for this work. They renounce the ordinary avocations of life, that they may devote their hearts, their talents, and their lives to the intellectual, social, moral and religious elevation of all around them. If truly God's ministers, at home, abroad, in Christian countries, in heathen climes; by day, by night, in their study on their knees, and in the sacred desk, doing good to others in the absorbing desire of their souls. Hence it is that seminaries, and universities of learning, reformatory institutions, places established for the worship and service of God; missionary societies, and Christian churches, have for the most part originated in the aims and exertions of the Christian ministry.

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