

is in keeping with the best teachings of the Conservative school. Sir John A. Macdonald saw in it, in his day, the only prospect of a united Canada. The demand for honest Government is one that commands everywhere at least a nominal assent. But the claim of the Nationalists that Canada needs no form of maritime defence, whether local or imperial, is as unpatriotic as it is illogical. It can only be held either on the theory, obviously silly, that no foreign nation could ever quarrel with us, or on the theory of a parasitic subordination to the United States. Alliance between the two parties there was none, as Mr. Henri Bourassa, the fervent protagonist of the Nationalist movement, took pains to declare on the very morrow of the victory. But they at least hunted in couples, the Conservatives in most cases leaving the Nationalists candidates unopposed. The fact that the Nationalists succeeded in electing only one candidate entirely belonging to their party removes them from being an active factor in the new Parliament.

The final struggle and the sweeping victory came upon the country with a great wave of surprise, relief, and national exaltation. Every man was proud of his neighbours when he learned that they had been thinking in the same way as himself. It is seldom that Canada has witnessed such throes of excitement as those that marked the election night of September 21. The autumn sky reddened with the bonfires and torchlight processions of the triumphant Conservatives. In many cases victory was achieved where nothing but an honorable defeat could have been expected by the most sanguine. Here and there contests were fought which will go down in history of the Dominion. In the County of Kings in Nova Scotia the veteran Sir Frederick Borden, the Minister of Militia, who had represented the riding for twenty-four years, was defeated by an undergraduate of Acadia College. Most notable, perhaps, of all in Canada, was the contest in Brome, an English-speaking county of Southern Quebec. Here Mr. Fisher, the late Minister of Agriculture, had reigned supreme. Here, as became his office, he had established himself with a model farm and mimic husbandry which, if not remunerative in the meaner sense, at least returned a liberal crop of votes that sprang from a constituency perpetually watered with