

Our poor friend has no longer the use of his limbs, but his big heart is strong enough to drag his sick body into this House in order that he may vote in favour of the resolution of my hon. friend from Kamouraska. He begged me in his letter to make arrangements to have him carried here even if the consequences should be fatal. I went to see him in the hospital and endeavoured to dissuade him from that idea, but I promised him I would be his interpreter in this House in favour of the resolution when he wanted to support by his vote. I am telling you this, Sir, because I want to commend this example of one of my compatriots to my other compatriots in this House, especially to those who perhaps are inclined to be weak-kneed. This is an example that they ought to follow, and when they hear that a man who is not physically strong enough to stand up has the courage to ask to be carried here in order to give his vote in support of the resolution, those who are of more robust health will surely do no less.

Since yesterday it has been gossiped around the House that the great objection to voting for this resolution on the part of those who are sincere supporters of the Government, is that the resolution is not in the proper form, because, being moved as an amendment to the motion to go into

Supply, it may be considered as a motion of non-confidence in the Government. So far as I am concerned, even if that were the case, I would sooner vote non-confidence in any government than vote non-confidence in the French language. But it is not the case, and those interested will find the proper authorities in Hansard of 1900, under date of the 13th of March, page 1824, and also in Hansard of 1893, in the debate of the 21st of March, page 2401.

I wish also to make an appeal to all generous English-speaking members of this House, whether on the Conservative side or on the Liberal side, representing any of the provinces of Canada, to show their broad-mindedness towards the French minority by supporting this resolution. I make a special appeal to those English-speaking members who owe their seats in this House to a generous French-Canadian majority.

In a few months from now we shall be called upon to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Confederation. The buildings erected for the purpose of enabling the nation to send its representatives there to debate on serious questions has been destroyed. Let us not permit the country or the world to understand that the same disaster has happened to the principles laid down by the Fathers of Confederation.