

before the Orders in Council were passed. Had he been an honorable man, he would have refused to act in the capacity of agent in putting forward such a claim, knowing it had no foundation in the terms of the Union. On the contrary, having acted as agent in the matter, he deserves not to be employed by the Government of Canada, and I trust that the Government will see that it is necessary to allow that gentleman to earn his labor in some other way than by setting up a claim to which the Dominion have no right. No one who has read the reports will find that the hon. member for Lambton (Mr. Mackenzie) ever put forward any claim or made the slightest suggestion of a claim on behalf of the Dominion, for anything outside the railway belt, except so far as getting contiguous land for such land as had been alienated by Crown grants or pre-emption. At the time when British Columbia was asked to make a reserve on Vancouver Island of 3,200 square miles, 2,048,000 acres, I was President of the Executive Council and Mr. Trutch was Governor. I can assure this House, without divulging any secret, that there was never any question raised anywhere in that Province with respect to getting arable land for rock, or swamp, or mineral land. It was not until the last Session of Parliament that this question was raised and the infamous act, in my opinion, perpetrated by that gentleman who should instead have directed this Government, if possible, not to claim anything beyond what they were justly entitled to. I submit the resolution to this House with the hope that I have spoken long enough to give hon. members on both sides an idea of the injustice of the claim put forward over the name of Mr. Trutch. I think it only right to say, in closing, that I do not hold the Government responsible.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. It is a matter of no consequence whether the hon. gentleman holds the present Government responsible for that or not. The Government is responsible for it. Whatever claim Mr. Trutch has advanced has been by special instructions from the Government. All the Government wants is that British Columbia should fairly carry out the engagement made at the time of the Union between her Government and the Canadian Government.

Motion agreed to.

SALE OF INTOXICATING LIQUORS WITHIN THE PRECINCTS OF THE HOUSE.

Mr. LONGLEY moved that it be resolved, that Mr. Speaker be requested to issue an order prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors within the precincts of this House. He said: I am told by some hon. members in this House that my motion is altogether unnecessary, inasmuch as there was a similar motion submitted to this House seven years ago. I am told that that motion is still alive, but it has seemed to me, from observation, that that motion must have become obsolete. It is said that even our bodies change in seven years. I do not know. I may say that it is just seven years since the motion to which I refer was placed on record. It is contended that Mr. A. becomes Mr. B., and so on; but I believe that there is, speaking in a physiological point of view, some truth in the remark that our bodies do change in the space of seven years. Whether that will involve a change of opinion or not, I am not quite certain. There is one spirit that never changes—the spirit of a man. We do not, any of us, believe in the transmigration theory; but at any rate, if the motion to which I have referred is considered by the House to be still in force, I am not, by any means, so intent upon pushing my resolution to-night as to seek to urge it unduly. But what I am, as one member of the House, very desirous of seeing is, that the sale of intoxicating liquors within the precincts of this House—I mean by the term precincts not only this Chamber, but all around and about the space we are supposed to have control over—should be terminated. I do

Mr. DeCosmos.

not, by any means, presume to enter upon the domain of the House at the other end of the building. I cannot, however, but think that if this end were accomplished this Parliament would present itself to the people of the Dominion in a much higher and very much more favorable attitude than it has exhibited itself in, and can exhibit itself in, while it is notorious there is a bag kept beneath this Chamber. I am not quite so extreme as some of my hon. friends imagine. I do not expect by this means absolutely to stop the grog of all the members of this Chamber. I only wish I had the power. I think I would exert it, and in exerting it I should think I was doing a very great good to those over whom I had, for the time being, control. Now, I admit, if it be necessary—because I think the admission would carry a sort of reflection upon this House—that it is indispensable that there should be a small modicum of wine now and then distributed or drunk about this Chamber—or something stronger if you will—there are various facilities for getting the article about this city, as is too obvious in every street we tread. I will not undertake to descant upon this fruitful theme, because I am speaking to a class of gentlemen who understand more about this subject, perhaps, than I can claim to know; but, strange to say, in my humble judgment, a very wise use of the knowledge they possess. I submit, in all candor, whether there have not been some exhibitions in the saloon below which have by no means been creditable to the parties implicated. I think there is no denying that fact. I am not disposed to cast reflections upon anybody, but what I see with my own eyes I am inclined to believe. I am afraid that the statement would not be contradicted, that at certain hours during this Session of Parliament the place below has been almost flooded with persons from outside.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Hear, hear.

Mr. LONGLEY. I am delighted to hear that “Hear, hear,” but I find that many of my hon. friends are very willing to agree that outsiders should be de-rived of their grog; but if you come to make a personal application away goes all their enthusiasm, and away go all their votes, I am afraid. Now, I submit whether or not all of us, conceding a little one to another, and looking at our credit and to some extent to our own safety, and looking also to the fact that if that bar below is kept open outsiders, as I term them, will come in, would it not be better to abolish the evil altogether. That is the point to which all my remarks lead, and I shall feel a measure of satisfaction which I would have no words to express if the House would consent, either that the motion placed on record seven years ago should still be considered in force, or that the present motion should be adopted. I confess that inasmuch as we are under a new regime I would personally prefer that the House should pass this motion, whether it be regarded as the revival of an obsolete motion or in the way of starting anew. I trust the House will take into favorable consideration the few observations I have ventured to make, and that we shall have this, I was going to say nuisance—and I do not think the word would be improper—abolished.

Mr. McCALLUM. The hon. gentlemen was kind enough to say that if the motion, which was passed some years ago, was revived, he would not press the present resolution. As that motion was made in another Parliament and the instructions given to another Speaker, I do not think it could now be enforced. If the hon. gentleman would confine his motion to the closing of the bar, I shall support him, but when he goes so far as to abolish drinkables altogether, he might as well go farther and abolish eatables, for there is just as much danger from over-eating as there is from excessive drinking. As to the disgraceful scenes which we hear of, I have been in Parliament for thirteen years, and I say that if you take 200 men out of any church, you would not find more temperate men than the members of this House.