

WORTH HAVE ALL ENDEARED HIM IN THE HIGHEST DEGREE TO US WHO HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH HIM FOR MANY YEARS AT OTTAWA, AND I AM SURE, MUST HAVE ENDEARED HIM IN AN EQUAL DEGREE TO YOU AMONGST WHOM HE LIVES, AND WITH WHOM HE IS ASSOCIATED IN THE HAPPY RELATION OF MEMBER AND CONSTITUENTS. (Loud and prolonged applause.) In connection with the address which has been presented to me I may say that I have watched the course of Mr. Paterson since he entered Parliament in 1872, with reference to

INDIAN LEGISLATION AND AFFAIRS,

and at all times for long years before that recent period at which the suggestion was first made that the franchise should extend to the Indian population, I have found him exhibiting in their interest that sympathy, that breadth of view, that kindly feeling, that deep interest which you here, I believe, know that he has felt and shown. I have found him watching closely every measure of legislation affecting the Indians, making suggestions, indicating defects, pointing out improvements, engaged in discussions, showing that at all times he was influenced by the most earnest desire that those who were his neighbours and friends, although there was no idea that they might become electors of the constituency, should be, (as far as the legislation and administration at Ottawa could effect it) elevated and their condition improved. He was an active friend when there was no political gain to be expected. Now that the time and occasion have arrived, I believe those whom he sought to befriend in the earlier days will show their gratitude. Gratitude is a noble trait; and the Indian, if I read his character aright, possesses that trait in a marked degree. I look then with confidence, both on general grounds and on the special circumstances, for a considerable vote from the reserve, and a decisive majority in the riding for our friend, William Paterson. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

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