

that the naval question was not discussed during the last election. All I can say is that I took a very lively interest myself in this question, night after night until nearly daylight, during the last election. Through the county of Prince Edward this question of the navy was the principal topic we discussed. The result was we redeemed that county by two or three hundred majority over the Liberal candidate. In other sections of the country it was the principal question discussed. The probabilities are that those who say it was not discussed avoided it purposely so that the people should not know what proposition the Conservative Government advanced on this question, and what proposition the Liberal party offered. I can readily understand they would take this course, because I am convinced that the people, Canada being an integral part of the empire, are true to the Crown and the empire, and that there is no sacrifice they would not be willing to make to maintain that constitution and keep the reins of world power as well. The hon. gentleman from DeLanaudière spoke of what the Liberal Government had done in sending a contingent to South Africa. Does the hon. gentleman presume upon the ignorance of the people, and suppose that they do not know the circumstances connected with the sending of that contingent? If there is one man more than another responsible for having that contingent sent, it is Sir Charles Tupper. He wired from Amherst to Sir Wilfrid Laurier pledging himself and the Conservative party, which he knew was behind him, that if Sir Wilfrid Laurier would take steps to raise a contingent to send to South Africa, he and his party would stand at his back. Sir Wilfrid Laurier did not act upon that suggestion, and Sir Wilfrid sought an interview with a Globe correspondent and pointed out that they had no power to do as suggested, and that they would not do it until they got the consent of Parliament. Public opinion was so strong that he was compelled to consent to the raising of that contingent, and send it forward. When the contingent was being raised, the spirit of the people of this country was evidenced by the boast of Sir Frederick Borden that in less than three weeks he would have a contingent of one thousand men ready to send to the defence of the empire. When the Government of the day passed the Order-in-Council giving

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their first consent to the idea, they based it on the ground that they would get the approval of Parliament after having passed the Order-in-Council, and that it should not be considered as a precedent. Thereby they cut off for the future, as far as they could, any further aid towards the suppression of the rebellion in South Africa. Public opinion was again too strong for them, and the Government was obliged to consent to the raising of a second contingent. The principal men, and the most valuable men that were sent to the Nile under Lord Wolseley, were Canadians. I am surprised that men knowing anything of Canada for the last ten or fifteen years, should make erroneous statements before intelligent people—unless they presume upon an ignorance which does not exist.

Hon. Mr. DOMVILLE—Canada is too big a country to go into past history. She must be a country of the future, and must set aside the politics of Liberalism and Conservatism. I have no sympathy with these things at all. I view Canada as one nation, no French, no English, no Irish, no Scotch, but one nationality, the making of a great nation.

I cannot see for the life of me, why charges are brought against the Senate at the present time. First of all it is said that the Senate is an imbecile body, an irresponsible body, a moribund house, and a morgue. However, this morgue is now increasing. It has been increased by the present Government and is no longer a morgue, for we are all brothers, and working together. I object to this pettifogging policy of running down the Government or of running down the Opposition, because, in time, they will both pass away. The Speaker and I sat together in the House of Commons in 1872. We have seen many changes, and many leaders come and go. We have seen many eminent men pass away. And all that is left of their work is the good that redounds to Canada.

There has been much talk about the redistribution of the seats of the Commons. The hon. gentleman has talked some about Tuckersmith. When that matter came up Sir John Macdonald said: 'You want such-and-such a place altered?' and Mr. Blake said 'Yes.' Sir John said 'We will make it as you want it.' Mr. Blake it turned out wanted it done in some ridiculous way, and Sir John A. Macdonald said 'You say so, Mr. Blake,' and it was carried out.

But this has nothing to do with conditions as they are to-day. We have had a