

manifesto—and the hon. gentleman can easily verify the correctness of that statement if he chooses—that it hardly becomes them to hurl taunts of disloyalty promiscuously in the House. The thing was done in former days once or twice in the other Chamber, and after I took the trouble to read a little list of the antecedents and performances of some of the hon. gentlemen who were sitting opposite me, the charge of disloyalty was dropped, and I would advise my hon. friend that he might as well drop it on the present occasion. My hon. friend takes another ground and says—and I think he says rightly—that it is in the highest degree desirable and expedient, in a country like Canada, that we in all possible ways and in all possible fashions nurture our national spirit, that the national spirit is a precious possession of any country, and that it is a misfortune that in some parts of Canada we are not as homogeneous as other countries happen to be. I prize the national spirit of Canada as highly as my hon. friend or any man. I am a Canadian and I believe he is a Canadian. I am a Canadian through and through and I hold the honour of Canada dear as I hope and trust every member of both Houses in this parliament will do, but any one who has carefully observed the progress of Canada during the last fourteen years and the position which the present Prime Minister of Canada occupies in the eyes of the world at large, will bear me out in saying that no man has done more to promote the growth of a national spirit in Canada and to bring Canada prominently before the eyes of the world than Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Touching the recent events to which the hon. gentleman devoted so much attention in the earlier part of his speech, events which followed the valuable addition which we have just had to the ranks of the Senate, I would say to the hon. gentleman that I think, on the whole, we might leave the House of Commons to their own devices on that point. For my own part, I am not at all sure that the results of the election in Drummond and Arthabaska, which I may allude to, as he has alluded to them, will not prove, on the whole, a blessing in disguise. I think it will tend strongly to illustrate the remarkable concord which

Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT.

exists between certain portions of His Majesty's—I was going to say loyal opposition—but of His Majesty's opposition in regard to the questions my hon. friend has brought up, and in any case they have given the opportunity to the friends of Canadian nationality to dis sever themselves from the extreme position which was taken up in that respect by the gentlemen who opposed the government candidate in Drummond and Arthabaska. I have noticed, also, that these gentlemen, when they appeared in another part of the country, were pleased to disavow, and very pointedly, all the statements that had been attributed to them in the way of inciting to disloyalty on the part of the French Canadians. If my hon. friend, who has been studying the 'Globe' with some care, will pay a little attention to the remarks made by a namesake of my hon. friend from Kennebec, he will see that that gentleman declared himself—and I daresay declared himself correctly—to be quite as loyal a man as any member of His Majesty's opposition, the hon. gentleman and his friends not excepted. Taking the whole thing all around, I think the hon. gentleman will not find that any very great accessions of strength, particularly in the province of Ontario and in the western provinces, are likely to come to himself or his friends from the events which have taken place in the province of Quebec, and I for one feel tolerably well convinced that when the present Premier has the opportunity of explaining his views in detail to his countrymen my hon. friend will find that the confidence which has been so long and so worthily displayed in him by the people of the province of Quebec, as well as the people of the other provinces, has not been shaken in the least by the slightly untoward event which took place a few days ago.

Touching the other matters the hon. gentleman alluded to, I entirely concur with him in thinking that a very great step forward has been made in the successful adjustment of those long and exasperating difficulties which have subsisted on our seashore between some of the maritime provinces and the United States, and I, as warranting to a very considerable extent the hopes that I have previously expressed, hail the way in which the award of The