

May 6, 1872

had cried that the Government must be turned out, because Thomas Scott was murdered, and the murderer was at large. These cries and these appeals to the prejudices of the people were the stock in trade of the hon. gentlemen opposite. It was a small stock and a small retail business (*Cheers*) and it was something for them that the Insolvency Act was not yet repealed, and they had better take advantage of it while they could. (*Laughter and cheers.*)

He (Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) then argued that if the resolutions of the member for Lennox (Mr. Cartwright) should be carried, if Canada said she did not want the guarantee, England would simply say that if we did not want it we should not have it, and the result would be, as we could not press the Fenian claim ourselves, we would be without the \$600,000 for twenty-eight years, and, would be compelled to put our dignity in our pockets. He denied that by the acceptance of these terms any stain was cast on the honour of Canada.

The Opposition took the ground that while they denied the capacity of the country to carry on the great works of improvement in which they were engaged, they refused the assistance which would enable us successfully to complete them; a position which no sensible man would think of occupying. That was the ground upon which they would go to the country, but the grounds upon which the Government would meet the people would be that, having pressed the claims with all the urgency in their power, they accepted the decision of England to withdraw them from before the Commission, upon the condition that this valuable aid would be given to us, and in so doing this they had a good bargain, for the country would secure the completion of these great works without any sacrifice, and he was satisfied they would meet the general approval of the people.

The claims had not, however, been finally withdrawn, for it remained for England, if she pleased, to press them at some future time in the same way as the United States had reserved the right of pressing the indirect claims on account of the Alabama. He concluded by saying that he had no doubt the House would vote down the amendment of the hon. member for Durham West with a smile, if not with a sneer, and also the resolution of the hon. member for Lennox, with extreme regret that a man of his position and intellect, who, he was sure, was anxiously desirous of continuing the connection between England and Canada, should have placed himself in such an equivocal position.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE replied severely criticising the Government for their desire to negative propositions which they themselves had written in despatches to the Imperial Government. He defended the Opposition against the attacks of the Minister of Justice (Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald), and retorted by reading a number of extracts from a speech of one of the colleagues of the hon. gentleman, in which the Minister of Justice and several other members of the Government were rather severely handled. He ridiculed the assumption of loyalty by hon. gentlemen opposite, when it served their purpose, and reminded the House that the annexation manifesto of 1849; the burning of the Parliament

Buildings; the insulting of the Governor General at Montreal, and the hoisting of rebellious flags at Brockville and Sandwich, were all acts of Tories from first to last. He could not understand, with this black record against the party opposite, how the hon. gentleman could have the face to charge gentlemen sitting on his side of the House with want of loyalty, professing loyalty only when it suited their purposes. However Ministers might triumph in this House, it would be found that when they went before the public, they would be held to a much stricter account, and there, at any rate, the country would give a better account of herself than she had done last year.

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD: Yes; a much better account. (*Laughter.*)

The House then divided upon **Hon. Mr. BLAKE'S** amendment, which was lost on the following division:—Yeas, 57; Nays, 100.

(Division No. 1)

YEAS

Members

Anglin	Béchar
Blake	Bourassa
Bowell	Bowman
Brown	Cameron (Huron South)
Carmichael	Cartwright
Connell	Coupal
Delorme (Saint-Hyacinthe)	Dorion
Ferris	Fortier
Fournier	Galt
Godin	Holton
Hutchison	Joly
Jones (Halifax)	Kempt
Macdonald (Glengarry)	MacFarlane
Mackenzie	Magill
McConkey	McMonies
Metcalfe	Mills
Morrison (Victoria North)	Oliver
Pâquet	Pearson
Pelletier	Power
Pozer	Redford
Ross (Prince Edward)	Ross (Wellington Centre)
Rymal	Scatcherd
Smith (Westmorland)	Snider
Stirton	Thompson (Haldimand)
Thompson (Ontario North)	Tremblay
Wells	White (Halton)
White (Hastings East)	Whitehead
Workman	Wright (York West)
Young -57	

NAYS

Members

Abbott	Archambault
Baker	Barthe
Beaty	Bellerose
Benoit	Bertrand
Blanchet	Bown
Brousseau	Cameron (Inverness)
Cameron (Peel)	Campbell
Carling	Caron
Carter	Cartier
Cayley	Chauveau
Cimon	Coffin
Colby	Costigan
Crawford (Brockville)	Crawford (Leeds South)
Cumberland	Currier
Daoust	De Cosmos