

express myself on occasions like this, somewhat distressing to one's feelings, and somewhat perhaps distressing to those who have to listen to both the leader of the House and myself. I agree most heartily with the kind and freindly expressions which my hon. friend has uttered with regard to at least two of the hon. gentlemen whom he has named. Dr. Wilson was a most active worker in party politics in Western Ontario for thirty or forty years and was associated with myself in local campaigns and in the discussion of public questions in several of the western ridings. He was a keen debater; he was an enthusiastic party man; he was a loyal friend, and he expressed his opinions with great fearlessness and great readiness. As a member of the local legislature for several years, he was useful, particularly in municipal matters. As a member of the House of Commons he filled a place which those who were then associated with him I am sure will not forget. While associated with him in this Chamber I was fully aware of his activity and his desire to see that the legislation adopted by this Chamber was in harmony with the principles of good government, and with public opinion. We certainly regret his loss.

As to Mr. Bell, I have no knowledge of his career as a public man, nor did I know him personally, although in my retreat last winter I had the pleasure of reading one or two of the speeches made by him in this House and formed the opinion that he was an acquisition which both sides of the House would welcome. I am sorry that death has separated us so that I am not able to speak of him personally in any regard.

The reference to Sir Richard Cartwright made by my hon. friend is in good taste and shows an appreciation of a great man in a kindly spirit which we all reflect from this side of the House and with which we all agree. While he was speaking I thought of the words of Markham at the time of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. He said:

He went down as a kingly cedar green with boughs goes down, with a great shout among the hills, and leaves a lonesome space beneath the sky.

We are lonely in his absence, I, particularly, who sat with him in the House of Commons, for eleven years, and during my short term of office was associated with him directly and indirectly in this House. The leader of the government has rightly said that to few men is allotted the great honour of being a party to so much legislation and to the evolution of practically what is now an empire on this western continent. He was in public life before Canada had a history as a Dominion. He contributed to the debates which resulted in the British North America Act of 1867, and in looking over the debates which took place on that occasion I could see in the speech which he then delivered the spirit which actuated him as I knew him in the House of Commons and as I knew him here.

With the permission of the House I will just quote a few sentences from that important speech. Referring to the future of confederation, he said:

'A little patience, a little forbearance, a little timely concession to mutual prejudice, a little timely preparation against possible dangers, and we may well hope to establish a country, which, in all its essential attributes to power and happiness, need not fear comparison with any other on this continent. My own years have not been very many, but yet even I can remember when Canada was but a petty province, an obscure dependency, scarcely able to make its voice heard on the other side of the Atlantic without a rebellion, . . . and yet, Sir, in less than 30 years, I have lived to see Canada expand into a state, equal in numbers, in resources and power of self government, to many an European Kingdom, lacking only the willingness to step at once from the position of a dependency to that of an ally, a favoured ally of the country to which we belong, and to take that rank among the commonwealth of nations which is granted to those people, and to those only, who have proved that they possess the power as well as the wish to defend their liberties.

This conception of the evolution of the new Dominion has been more than verified by the experience of the last forty-five years. To make Canada worthy of this ideal was a task which lay before Sir Richard Cartwright, as a member of the new Dominion Parliament.

Two features stand out prominently, first, he was beyond doubt a decided champion of economy in the administration of the Dominion Treasury. With Gladstone, he believed that the House should not vote