

true that, he has told us, he is a defeated candidate, and no one more regrets that defeat than I do; not only on my own account, but on account of the party of which, for the present at all events, I may be considered the leader (cheers). Mr. White has this consolation, that the loss is to his party, the great Conservative party, that the loss is to the City of Montreal (we know it)—that the loss is to myself who looked forward hopefully to having him acting with me, fighting with me, battling, as I said a few evenings ago, with the beasts at Ephesus. (Cheers.) But, in truth, it has been no defeat; it is a great triumph, for he had the real honest vote of West Montreal, and he has in this demonstration the testimony of the wealth, intelligence, enterprise and commerce of Montreal. (Cheers.) I might, gentlemen, at this late hour, content myself with making these remarks (No! no!! go on!) and with thanking you for the honor conferred upon Her Majesty's Opposition; only that being a lawyer I am fond of precedents, and I find that at a similar banquet, perhaps not quite so numerously attended, which took place in Montreal in honor of a most estimable gentleman, Mr. Frederick Mackenzie, his namesake, the Premier of the Dominion, took occasion to enter into some of the political questions of the day, and following that precedent, I shall, with your permission, do the same. (Loud cheers.) Gentlemen, I feel bound to follow the example set me by the Premier of Canada—by the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie—for we must be careful to speak of him as the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie in the future. (Laughter.) We all got a lesson lately, which I know you will take to heart, in politeness and deportment. We were told that no more must he be styled Sandy Mackenzie (renewed laughter): that no more must such an one be spoken of as Archie McKellar, or another as Gordie Brown; that you must speak of them as the Honorable Archibald McKellar and the Honorable George Brown. I didn't know, gentlemen, before I read that speech, what a deeply injured man I was myself; I didn't know that the people of Canada, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, had been insulting me for thirty years by calling me "John A." (Laughter and cheers.) And then I could not but reflect when that speech will be re-echoed, as such a speech deserves to be re-echoed, across the Atlantic, how Mr. D'Israeli and Mr. Lowe will feel, when their attention is called to the fact that they, great statesmen as they are, one of them Premier, have allowed themselves to be called plain Dizzy and Bob Lowe. (Laughter.) So, gentlemen, remember that he is the Honorable Alexander Mackenzie. It is said that in Spain the great old grandees, founders of the ancient families of Castile and Leon, the Duke of Ossuna, the Duke of Medina Sidonia, or the Duke of Medina Celi, and such great nobles, addressed each other as Ossuna, Sidonia or Celi, and so on, but when they spoke to a new man they styled him the noble and illustrious Hidalgo, the Marquis of Nuevo Hombre. (Laughter.) Now, gentlemen, I know that every one of you are F. F. C.'s (of the first families of Canada), and so remember that while you are quite at liberty to address one another as Tom, Dick or Harry, you must always speak to and of Mr. Mackenzie as "the Honorable Alexander Mackenzie, Premier of the Dominion of Canada, member for Lambton, &c." (Renewed laughter.) Having thus called your attention to the proprieties, and to the necessity of mending your manners in this respect, I would say it is very strange that this gentleman, who gave us a lesson in deportment, seemed to forget in his speech that he was now Premier. It seemed as if he had been so long in opposition that he fancied he was in opposition still. He had told us in the House some years ago that the duty of an Opposition was to attack the Ministry of the day, and to object to their measures, and that if they did not do so, there was no use in an Opposition; and yet, forgetting that he was a Minister, forgetting that he had to give an account of his stewardship, forgetting that it was his duty to defend his measures, to defend his position, and to vindicate his right to the position he now holds, his speech was entirely directed against the late Administration, against my late colleagues, and my unfortunate self. (Laughter.) You can judge from reading that speech if it is such a speech as ought to come from a Prime Minister. Mr. Mackenzie, in effect, said it didn't rest with us to judge of the competence of the Government, because we had shown our own incapacity to govern. Well, gentlemen, if so, we were out, and were now in the "cold shades" of the Opposition; we had suffered the consequences of our errors, and he ought to have known that a Minister cannot hold his position by the merits or incapacity of the Opposition. You can judge, gentlemen, from the speech which was delivered in this city the other night, the nature of the answers that we of the Opposition receive in Parliament when we arraign the conduct of the Government. Just in accordance with the tone of that speech are we answered in Parliament when we perform our duty to our constituents and our country—when

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