

about annexation could, but in this the French half not a change. When it began the French had no desirability, they were the miscreants of affairs in the murder of Scott. It is any member of the favored Riel's escape one who would be taken. There is a human nature, a charge so disgraced is in pursuing a derided what happened. (Cheers.) The rant people, but people upon whom the Government never pressed, and being at once ignorant and free, it was of the utmost consequence that it should be obvious to them that their rights would be respected and their general welfare promoted. (Hear.)

DISREGARD OF THE FEELING OF THE PEOPLE  
IN THE NORTHWEST.

But instead of this the Government was about to have been established for the benefit of those who were to govern. Those who had humbled themselves at Ottawa were to have been exalted at Fort Garry (hear); and as a reward for parliamentary dependence at home, the faithful were to have been raised above want abroad. (Hear.) There is no one of any nationality or of any religion in this province who defends the murder of Scott. But who does not see that folly would have gone unpunished had there been no resistance? The Government of Canada had grossly failed in its duty; is it surprising that the consequences of that failure followed? (Hear.) It is a necessary law of social well-being that the wrongs done by those whom we permit to exercise authority injuriously affect ourselves (hear), and we are thus made guardians of each other's rights.

I have so far considered the general policy of the Government with reference to the acquisition and provisional government of the Territories. I shall now proceed to consider how far the course pursued is consistent with the British North America Act, and I trust that I shall be able to state my views with sufficient clearness to enable you to fully understand the grounds upon which I object to the policy which has been pursued; for I am sure, sir, this assembly is far too intelligent to accept implicitly any proposition which is not a mere matter of fact, but of law and reason, upon a simple assertion of mine.

considered, by terms and conditions is meant a subsidy, a distribution of powers, and a local constitution, and it would be difficult to understand how it was that a provision of the Imperial Act could mean one thing when applied to the provinces, and another and very different thing when applied to the territories. WHAT IS ESSENTIAL TO A FEDERAL SYSTEM.

It is of the essence of the federal system that the local constitutions should not be subject to change or alteration by the federal government. (Hear.) There can be no federation if the so called federal authority is the source from which the local authority is derived. (Hear.) The very object of an Order in Council was to give an Imperial origin to the local constitutions. (Hear.) The Parliament of Canada might have provided for a territorial government; it might have provided that its powers should be derived from the Imperial Act; it might have provided that it should become a Province of the Dominion upon certain conditions set forth; and all these provisions could have been made a part of the Imperial Act by an Order in Council. But nothing of the kind was done. The legislation has been of a kind unauthorized by the organic law, contrary to the principles of the federal system, and in contravention of some of the express provisions of the Imperial Act, and such as Her Majesty is inhibited from embracing in any Order in Council. It is quite clear that what could not have been embraced in an Order in Council cannot subsequently be done by any authority which an Order in Council can confer.

I say, then, first, that no plan of government having been set forth in the Order in Council, as the law required, we effectually closed against ourselves the way open to the admission of any portion of the North West to the Union by our own Act; and all we had power to do was to provide for it a colonial government. The Act of federation did not give to the Government of Canada power

*The Parliament of Canada until it became a Province of the Union -*