

my hon. friend will ultimately prevail; and that, so long as we find jealousy in respect of those rights when they affect a particular Province, and indifference, or even a disposition to assist in their impairment, when only other Provinces are concerned, so long it is impossible to say that what the hon. gentleman wishes, namely the maintenance on a sound and immutable basis of the Federal principle, has yet been attained.

Changes in Parliament.

Now, Mr. Speaker, when we met last year for the first time, I adverted to the many changes which had taken place in the constitution of the Parliament from the time we met before. Since that time several changes, even in this brief interval, have taken place—some of them expected, some of them unexpected, to one or two only I wish to allude. The hon. gentleman opposite has been relieved of the disagreeable and embarrassing necessity of making an election. He finds himself free from the necessity of choosing between the two devoted constituencies which claimed his hand, and both of which would have been delighted to stick to him if the law of this country permitted. But that spouse of his, so faithful while she adhered to him, has been unfaithful since, and another man sits for Lennox. I regret exceedingly, and I am sure the hon. gentleman regrets what his Toronto organ, with a fine appreciation of the fitness of things, calls "The temporary triumph of vice over virtue," which resulted in this election

Other faces we miss, and other faces re-appear amongst us. I shall allude to one only. We have lost John Pickard, a man firm in his political opinions, but who possessed the rare good fortune, I believe, of not having a single person on unfriendly terms with him in this House, who was a friend to everybody and to whom everybody was a friend, who had the singular happiness of evoking during his life those universal expressions of affection and sympathy which are too often suppressed until the heart they would have gladdened is cold in death. I see that I speak the sentiments of every man on both sides of the House when I say we mourn his loss. As I have said before, and as I said last Session, this new Parliament, changed as it was greatly then, changed as it is now, had before it a future, a future which it had to make; and I ventured to express the hope which I forced myself then to entertain, that that future would be a bright one. That future has since become, in considerable measure, a past, and those hopes are dim. But, though much be taken, much remains. There is yet time, and even now, after the experiences of last Session, I will repeat the expression of the hope that we shall take heed to the lessons of the year, that we shall endeavour to repair the errors of the past, and if we cannot now achieve all that might have been achieved, we shall yet endeavour to do for our country what may, under present circumstances, be done for its best.