

speeches were now being printed in England, and the remarks on the subject have so merited my appreciation that I will quote them for this hon. House. The gentleman who has undertaken the task of writing these speeches, in regard to the final speech of His Excellency, says:—

“But these utterances were all surpassed by Lord Dufferin, in taking leave of Manitoba, in a speech made at a farewell banquet at Winnipeg. \* \* \* \* \*

No wonder that the Canadian pioneers who listened to these grand tones and magnificent periods were quite wild with excitement. The reports in the Canadian papers speak at almost every sentence of tremendous applause and tremendous cheering; the Canadians were listening to their own feelings with regard to the beautiful regions which they inhabit, put into language of unrivalled purity and beauty.

A romance has passed into the daily life of every one of them, they were being nerved for further effort, and encouraged in their great and glorious mission of relieving the misery and poverty of Europe by pouring into the lap of their original mother the rich abundance of the West.

Such a speech has a distinctly elevating and ennobling effect upon those who heard it, and upon those who have read it.

To the teeming millions of the Old World, looking for careers for their sons or for themselves, such a speech must operate almost with the inspiration of revelation; it opens up a new prospect, it speaks of a land almost unknown a year or two ago, but which is found, to use a metaphor of the Scriptures, to be flowing with milk and honey.

In the lonely cabin of the Irish peasant, the over-crowded cottage of the English laborer, in the mechanic's work-room, such words must enter as words of life and hope.

To the farmer struggling against high rents and unprofitable harvest; such a speech opens up quite a new vista of the future.”

I may add, hon. gentlemen, that, for my part I would like to see that fine country taken possession of not only by settlers from the Old Country, but by the sons of the inhabitants of the older provinces of the Dominion. I give my full concurrence in the expressions used by His Excellency in his appreciation of the country, and I am sure that his visit will be a great source of profit for us all, and for the Dominion in general. I see by the Speech from the Throne that a satisfactory treaty has been made with the Indians. Indeed, I think peace and order are prevailing amongst the Indians at the present time, and there is a feeling of satisfaction which should be a matter for gratification to the whole Dominion. When we see all the trouble and bloodshed caused by Indian wars in the

*Hon. Mr. Girard.*

United States, we must certainly approve of the policy which has been followed by the Canadian Government with reference to the Indians of the Dominion. A large sum of money has been expended, but it certainly cannot be compared with what has been expended for the same purpose by the United States—not only money but in the sacrifice of their best men—and even yet there is in our neighbourhood a feeling of uneasiness and far which must stop all settlement for some years to come. The Speech refers to Sitting Bull. Certainly it will be admitted that Sitting Bull is a dangerous man, and the Government cannot take too much precaution on his account. There is no doubt that a great responsibility rests with the Government in reference to Sitting Bull and his band. I think he is now on United States territory, if the information which I have received is correct. I see the hon. Secretary of State says no, but I ascertained in passing through the United States that he has gone over from our side of the line. If such is the case our responsibilities are increasing, for he will be a cause of uneasiness. Amongst our people he is feared, and it will be the duty of the Government to see that he and his band are placed on some reserve where he can be looked after with the greatest care and precaution. It is certain that the mind of that warrior is never satisfied, and though he may for a while exhibit an appearance of gratitude for the good treatment he has received from the Canadian Government, he will on the first occasion that offers, be disposed to give trouble and make the American authorities feel yet that Sitting Bull is not a dead man. The Speech foreshadows the fact that we are to have a chance of coming more into communication with the world than we are at present. It is certainly a great satisfaction for the people of Manitoba to hear this, but it seems to me, it is to be regretted, that it has taken so much time to give us this communication. The remark has been made that the Pembina Branch could have been constructed a great deal sooner, instead of leaving the rails to rust on the banks of German Creek, a small river where thousands and thousands of them are piled. It would have been better to have them laid on the track than to have allowed them to spoil without benefit to