

at public auction, the money that would pay back not only the expenditure up to the present time, but down to the completion of the railway. But it will come in the future; our public debt will be decreased, our annual interest will be reduced, and we shall occupy the proud position of being able to offer to the industrious and honest men who cannot find work in the old world a home here, with free lands, a country girdled with railways, and a canal system the best in the world; with institutions that will protect their lives, their properties and their rights, and that will afford a refuge for the oppressed men, if there be any such in any part of the old world. We will open our arms to them all, and bid them welcome, and make the Dominion of Canada, as I said in my closing remarks in a former speech, what Providence has designed it to be—one of the greatest and richest countries in the world, one we may be proud to belong to, especially by every man who has advocated and supported the policy that has in three years raised us to our present enviable position, a policy that will not be repealed, a policy that will be sustained either by gentlemen opposite or by those on this side, for the will of the people will demand its permanency. Under these circumstance we feel a pride and a satisfaction in meeting Parliament and presenting our case, and we are prepared to vindicate our position here and elsewhere, and we know that at the close of this Session, when the arguments on both sides have been heard, and we have met our opponents face to face, as we are now stronger in the country than we were in 1873, we will be still stronger at the close of the Session than we are now, and that when the time comes to ask the people for the endorsement of our policy they will sustain us and send us back here to perfect and continue the policy we have inaugurated.