

Now that you are strong and powerful, able to walk alone, now that you have shown to the world the importance of this great undertaking, let us close all accounts, let us make full and complete settlement. You take your lands and raise what money you require to meet your purposes and we will take a portion of those lands and hold them and dispose of them for the purpose of meeting the balance of the loan after paying \$20,000,000 in cash. And, Mr. Speaker, I am able to announce to the house that arrangements have been made by which the company agree to accomplish that purpose and to pay us \$20,000,000 in cash, one-half in May and one-half on or before 1st July, and enable us to close all accounts with the Canadian Pacific Railway company and receive our \$20,000,000 that we may provide for our floating indebtedness and have spare cash in the treasury and not be under the necessity of increasing our liabilities. We were told time and again that the money and aid we were giving to that company were gifts, and would prove an entire loss to the country. But we believed otherwise, and the result has proved we were right in placing faith in that work and in those who managed it. When we receive that money we shall be able to pay off all that sum of \$14,000,000 of floating debt, and be able to turn our attention to the older provinces. The house and the country know that a large portion of the time and attention of the Government has been given to the Northwest and the Canadian Pacific railway, perhaps to the neglect of some of the older provinces, and we think it is desirable in the interests of the older provinces that the attention of the Government should be given to them, and that the Canadian Pacific railway now being on its feet should work out its own destiny. We have advanced so far, and at the earliest possible day I shall submit for the approval of

the house a proposition to carry out this undertaking and enable us to settle all accounts with the Canadian Pacific Railway company, and to receive the money that is represented by the \$20,000,000 of bonds which the Government hold. I think, taking the whole position, we have cause for congratulation. We have cause for congratulation that we have done so much and not imposed more burdens upon this country, and that we have gone through with our part of the undertaking and not suffered more inconvenience than we have done. Sir, we all deeply regret the condition of affairs during the past season; we deeply regret the outbreak in the Northwest; we regret the loss of life that was occasioned by it; but if we are to believe the words of hon. gentlemen opposite even that has done us good. The house will remember, and will remember with admiration, the speech which the hon. gentleman opposite made in the absence of his leader—the speech which he made when he came out from the shadow of partyism and spoke as a man and a Canadian. He said:—

"Sir, people respect those whom they find to be able to fight for their own land and to defend their own country. Our conduct has been watched and scrutinized on both sides of the Atlantic, and there is no doubt whatever in my mind—I say it frankly—that we stand before the nations of the world in a better position to-day than we did three or four months ago on that single score."

Even that occurrence, the hon. gentleman says, has done us good. Yes, we came back from that fight lamenting the death of those who fell in the defence of their country; but we came back without a permanent wound or disfigurement, or without being dismembered; we came back wearing no empty sleeve, but with both our good arms tried and strengthened and skilled to carry forward the banner of our country and to work out a grand destiny for ourselves among the nations of the earth.