

Ocean to the Pacific, was the task of the late Sir John A. Macdonald, a Canadian man of the hardy British race that leads the world. He could deal with men, suggest plans of co-operation for those of opposite views, grapple successfully with bitter prejudices and if not able always to settle questions, at least could propose and carry out a *modus vivendi*. To accomplish all this, preserve a balance between east and west, and yet develop the west, was a mighty achievement.

Sir John was leader under Confederation for some nineteen years. The other leader, likewise a Canadian, who caught the "vision splendid" of a great west, belonged to the other renowned race of Europe that of "La belle France," celebrated earlier than Britain in Art, Science, Literature and War—and which has made in Canada the thrifty, peaceful and religious French Canadian element of our country—we refer to the Premier of to-day—distinguished and beloved in Britain as well as in his native Canadian land—Sir Wilfrid Laurier. His principle, like that of his great predecessor, is "*Conciliation*"—not a conciliation of apathy and Lethean repose, but *Conciliation with Progress*.

He, too, will have a great Transcontinental railway to his credit and the formation of two great Canadian provinces—Saskatchewan and Alberta—each of them as large as an European Kingdom; and these, with the love of a great young nation from the Atlantic to the Pacific, will be to him a Crown of Honor. Canadian harmony must be the cardinal principle of any great leader who will rule Canada successfully. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has been our national leader for fourteen years, and is with us still.

LAW AND ORDER.

One true test of government is its firm administration of law and success in preserving order. The Hudson's Bay Company had an unexceptional record for the high character of its officers and men, and for a noble desire to deal fairly and justly with all classes. But they did not rest on the will of the people. They were autocrats; although they had not the necessary weapons of the successful autocrat—a force to carry out the autocratic will and a police organization to maintain order. The last twenty years of the Company's administration of justice in Assiniboia was a miserable succession of tumults, illegal imprisonments, forced jail delivery, and a consequent distrust of authority among all the people.

With this state of things western Canada had to deal immediately in 1870.

In the lawlessness of the period of the gold fever in British Columbia in 1858 Judge Begbie had bravely grappled with disorder. He was a terror to evil-doers and he won the day.