

brought forward. The Factory Bill, which alone of the three was urgent, was, with the Franchise Bill, thrown over, while the License Bill was pushed and carried, because, though less needed, it would be a blow to the Grit Government of Ontario and to Provincial independence. The other party, if it had the majority, would do the same. The upshot is that a session of the Confederate Parliament has been held at a cost of half a million to provide money for expenditures of which Confederation is the main cause. That reconciliation of party leaders, which the historical picture voted by Parliament will portray, was brief and perfidious as a harlot's love; yet a comparison of the rate at which the Canadian debt has advanced, while the American debt has been reduced, since that occurrence, will show that though the union was short-lived, its fruit has not been small.

The gratitude of the people is due to the Opposition for having closely scrutinized the Estimates, and not shrunk from challenging even petty expenditures. Evidently the large surplus has made the Government lavish. This is what a large surplus always does, and it is a strong reason for restricting the Finance Minister to the amount of taxation absolutely required by the public service. The Governor-Generalship probably now costs the country nearly double the nominal salary, and the same disregard of economy prevails elsewhere. This money is made by the labour of the people, and is a sacred trust in the hands of their representatives. But it is not mere waste that, in the case of this country, most calls for vigilance and restraint. It is the tendency of the Government to use the money as a bribery fund, under the colour of undertaking public works or subsidizing railways, for the purpose of buying local support, and especially the support of the smaller Provinces. Buying the smaller Provinces is a game, the cost of which Ontario pays.

—Among the feats performed by the Prime Minister, not the least surprising has been that of riding with one foot on the back of Ultramontaniam and the other on Orangeism. It is true that Orangeism had been drugged. At last, however, the two horses