

The Governor-General.

I entirely agree with the paragraph, and with the expressions upon that paragraph, which have reference to the nobleman who has been lately appointed to preside over us. It is a fortunate circumstance that for many years we should have had a succession of distinguished gentlemen as Viceroy of Canada, and it is a fortunate circumstance, also I think, that they are men who, having already approved themselves to be fit for that position, by the place they have taken in public affairs of the Mother Country, were yet men in the prime and vigour of life, fully equal to an energetic and active discharge of those functions which devolve even upon a constitutional Governor here, and of whom we may fairly expect that they come here to improve and increase their credit and reputation; to approve themselves capable of still higher positions in that public service to which they have devoted themselves; and, therefore, there is every inducement to their discharging, as those in the past have discharged, to the full their duty to the country. We do not expect, as I once before observed here, from those who come to rule over us, indiscriminate praise and eulogy, but we are entitled to expect, and I am glad to say we do receive, marks of an abiding attachment on the part of those who have remained among us for five or six years, towards this country, and a public exhibition of that abiding attachment and interest in the country, which certainly must be, as the hon. gentlemen have observed, of great advantage to us in the country to which we look for so much, in reference to our development, and our relations with which are so important.

British Columbia.

I feel, Mr. Speaker, very glad indeed to learn that some arrangements have been made, which the Government think they may with confidence submit

to Parliament, for closing all questions at issue between the Province of British Columbia and the Dominion of Canada. It would be entirely premature to discuss, in any detail, the particular arrangements with respect to which the papers are not before us, but which, we are informed, we shall certainly receive full information about within a very short time. I was a little amused to observe, however, the principles upon which this settlement, in its main feature, was based, as publicly announced by the envoy of the Administration in the Province of British Columbia. I should have supposed that the settlement was based upon a fair and liberal consideration of what the claims were of British Columbia upon Canada, but I find that it was not so—that it was upon other considerations—upon the considerations of the claims of the City of Victoria upon the First Minister. I quote from the report of the speech of the Minister of Justice at Victoria, in which he announced that result:

"With reference to the Settlement Bill, as it is called by the Local Administration, Sir Alexander Campbell assured the deputation, reiterating the language of his colleague, Sir John Macdonald, that the Government of the Dominion has every intention to see that the line between Esquimalt and Nanaimo is constructed. This, Sir John A. considers a debt which he owes to Victoria, for the confidence placed in him by the electors, when they returned him as their representative."

Mr. Speaker, an honest man pays his debts, but he pays them with his own money. But the hon. gentleman proposes to pay his debts, incurred in the constituencies which honor him with their confidence, at our expense, and this is formally announced in the course of the discussion which results in the settlement which is to be brought before us. I was a little amused, also, to observe that the arrangement involves a

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