

around it. (Cheers.) And we find that in the other Provinces the people are fighting a winning battle. I received a letter from Mr. Blake last week, in which he tells me that the prospects of the Liberal party in the west were never so bright—(cheers)—and we know that in the Province of Quebec, where our friends are in power, it is expected that the Macdonald Government will not be able to elect more than ten or twelve out of the sixty-five members for that Province. (Applause.) If such should be the case, and if, as we believe, we shall have a handsome majority in Ontario, and we have the Local Government of Ontario with us; if we have a handsome majority in Quebec, and we have the Local Government in Quebec also with us; and if we have a majority from New Brunswick, we have also a majority of the Local Government there; and if we have the Province of Nova Scotia returning, as I believe we shall, eighteen Liberal members to the Dominion, and the Local Government here with us, where is the man that would be bold enough to stand up and say that he should stay the course of Liberal sentiment throughout this country? (Prolonged cheers.)"

Now, Sir, I mention this to show that my hon. colleague, a very few days before the election—because hon. gentlemen will bear with me when I repeat the date on which that article appeared, the 14th of February, only a week before the elections—when my hon. colleague spoke thus, he had no misgivings as to the coercion of civil servants or the effects of railway subsidies, although he had ample time to estimate both. But, Sir, the sanguine expectations which my colleague had formed were not confined to himself. They were shared by every member of his party in the city of Halifax. Why, Sir, I was repeatedly told, good-naturedly told, by many of the friends of my hon. colleague, that the majority against me was to be from 700 to 1,000. The fact was, Mr. Chairman, that these gentlemen were calculating on the majority which they had in the month of June. In the month of June previously the Local elections took place. The Local Government, the repeal Government, with the assistance of my hon. colleague, organised the Province thoroughly, and they kept their organisation up for the impending Dominion elections. The whole power of the Local Government was used against the Liberal-Conservative party in the Dominion elections, as the fourteen representatives of that party on this side of the House were made to know and feel. The appeal in June of the repeal party had been eminently successful, and nowhere more so than in the county of Halifax. They had carried the county by a majority of between 1,000 and 1,200, and they expected a similar majority in the Dominion elections, and therefore it was that these gentlemen, not having estimated, as I said before, the fact that the people of Canada to-day, as has been shown not only in Nova Scotia, but in the other Provinces of the Dominion, will vote on one side in Local politics and the other side in Dominion politics. My hon. colleague and his friends had not justly estimated they had not, in fact, gauged accurately the public sentiment of their Province. But my hon. colleague was not the only one of his party who had formed these very sanguine expectations. They were shared, as I said before, by members of his party generally. On the very day of the elections in the city of Halifax, extensive preparations were made for a grand open air celebration. The large space on the eastern front of the provincial building was carefully strewn with ashes, a platform was improvised by the removal of a temporary porch—a platform from which my hon. colleague, in June, in the local elections, had addressed a monster gathering of his friends, and this was to be repeated from the same platform in February. Well, Sir, it was a lovely night. I am sure my hon. colleague remembers it well.

Mr. JONES. I do.

Mr. KENNY. The fates were most propitious. The atmospheric and climatic conditions were most favorable to an open air demonstration, all nature seemed joyous and happy, yet, Sir, no speaker came upon that platform, there was no monster gathering, the torches were not lighted, the band was never heard. In fact, gentlemen, all the magnificent preparations were wasted, save the ashes. They served appropriately to remind my hon. colleague and his

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friends, if indeed, under the circumstances, they required any reminder, that the days of abstinence and mortification had set in. That next day was veritably Ash Wednesday. I said that my colleague had not a monopoly of the brilliant expectations. I will say to him that during the twenty years we have happened to be arrayed in different political camps, he has not had a monopoly of the defeats. I have had my ups and downs as a political man during those twenty years, but I hope I was always able to take my licking, as an hon. gentleman on the opposite side of the House said the other day, like a man and was able to bear defeat with a patient shrug. I must say this: I never found anything was gained by abusing my opponents after the election was over, or by beating the air to find vain excuses because my party had not got as many votes as the other side. I might add that I always felt that losing an election was no excuse for my losing my temper. My hon. colleague has not yet discovered the true inwardness of the vote of the people of Nova Scotia in February last, and I will tell him how I read it. The true meaning of that vote is, that on sober second thoughts the people had decided to reverse their vote recorded in June last in favor of repeal and to stand loyally by the Union, believing the Government of the day would carefully enquire into the financial condition of the Province and adjust any disability that it may labor under. The vote meant in the most tangible way, in which it could be expressed, the hearty approval of the people of Nova Scotia with the Government of the day and their policy. The vote was not only the expression of the opinion of the people of the confidence, and I may say of the attachment, of the people of Nova Scotia to the great Liberal-Conservative party of this Dominion; but it was more than that, it was the pledge of our people that, as in the past, so in the future, we would continue our support to that party so long as it remained true to its great and grand tradition of ever seeking the greatest good of the greatest number.

Mr. JONES. My hon. friend seems to have taken exception to some remarks which fell from me on a previous occasion, and he seems disposed to blame me for having brought up the discussion to which he made reference. If he will bear in mind the course of the debate during that afternoon he will remember that it was the leader of the Government who assailed hon. gentlemen on this side of the House for having intimidated the public servants of the country during the last election; and while the hon. gentleman was amusing his audience with some of his jokes, which we had heard before—for it was necessary, perhaps, to keep them in good humor, because the evening before he had given them a very disagreeable dose to swallow in the Queen's county election matter—we listened with the greatest forbearance to what the hon. gentleman said, and the attacks he made on hon. gentlemen on this side of the House. During the course of my reply I pointed out the position we occupied in Nova Scotia during the last election, and I stated then, as I repeat now, that my hon. friend and colleague—and I call him my friend—owes his seat in this House to night to the fact that he had about 400 or 500 of the Civil Service employés of the Government to vote *en masse* for him at that election.

Mr. KENNY. I deny it.

Mr. JONES. The hon. gentleman has made a case out to-night with a great deal of plausibility, but he has not referred to some of the statements I made on that occasion. It will be borne in mind that on the occasion to which he has referred I brought a charge against the administration of the railway department of the Government of their having exercised undue influence over the men in their employ, of having sent men from Halifax to Moncton who were supposed to be in sympathy with our party, of having sent them an emphatic order with a railway pass, which I saw, direct-