

fic thing. A Bill would have had to provide for the granting of certain powers and privileges in regard to the people resident in the portion of the territory that will be added either to one province or the other. So the Prime Minister, in the dying days of the session, has introduced a resolution merely, and with the object no doubt of allowing his followers to go before the people and to explain what they are going to do after the elections—because this is a sure precursor, in my opinion, of an election between now and another session; and true to their old time policy, they will make one appeal to a certain class of people, for instance, as to educational matters, and another and entirely different appeal to another class of people of different views. This has been an embarrassing question in the way of bringing down a Bill, and therefore a resolution is substituted.

Now the Ontario government passed, in 1882, as I say, a resolution approving of the undisputed territory being added to the province of Manitoba. This resolution was passed on March 9, 1882:

That the extension of Manitoba by the federal Act of last session receives, so far as the territory added is undisputed, the hearty approbation of the inhabitants of Ontario.

The disputed part is that part that was won by Ontario in an appeal to the Privy Council; the undisputed part was that lying north of the Albany river, and the legislature of Ontario gave their hearty approval to that being given to the province of Manitoba. But on the invitation of the Prime Minister of Canada they have now put in a claim for this very same territory that the legislature of Ontario claimed should properly belong to Manitoba. It is true that the province of Manitoba, through their legislature, has made a somewhat different appeal in their latest memorial, to that submitted to this parliament in days gone by. But there has been a reason. The Prime Minister has quoted myself as saying that in giving any additional territory to Manitoba there should be a provision for handing over the public lands to that province, and that is very true. Our claim has always been that the public lands shall be handed over to the province. But we recognized, taking into consideration that the two new provinces, Alberta and Saskatchewan, were refused the power, there was no possibility of Manitoba getting that power at the present time and it would be somewhat of an anomaly if the province of Manitoba had not jurisdiction over all the public lands, having a divided authority, one portion of the land being administered from Ottawa and the other portion from Winnipeg. We recognized that anomalous position, and we therefore asked for the same terms and conditions that were accorded to the new provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan. In that I am in accord with the

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legislature of Manitoba, and it is my desire, as a representative of that province, to back up her policy on the floor of parliament.

Now Ontario has been increased in area since confederation from 109,480 square miles to 260,862 square miles, not taking into consideration what is proposed to be added at the present time, which, as the Prime Minister says, is in the neighbourhood of 140,000 square miles, which would make Ontario in the neighbourhood of 400,000 square miles. The province of Quebec has been increased since confederation from 193,355 square miles to 351,873 square miles, the second largest in area at the present time in the Dominion of Canada. By this resolution there will be added to it, in round numbers, 466,000 square miles which will make the province of Quebec of the enormous area of 817,873 square miles. It is an enormous area, out of all proportion to the other provinces, and I think that some greater respect should have been shown to approximate uniformity in the area of the provinces. But as a result of this proposition, while Ontario and Quebec have these large additions, Manitoba has 80,679 square miles less than she had in 1891. Now that is a very serious condition for the province of Manitoba to be in. She has that much less than in 1881 was accorded her by the Campbell Act. The two new provinces have in the neighbourhood of 250,000 square miles, with a population less than the province of Manitoba to-day. In 1881, when this addition of territory by the Campbell Act was given to Manitoba, and which was taken away afterwards by the decision of the Privy Council, Manitoba's area was 62,260 square miles. But Manitoba has increased since confederation from 13,500 square miles to its present area of 73,732, an increase of only 60,232 square miles, while her population has increased from 17,000 to close on 400,000. So I think she has been very unfairly treated, and deserves better consideration at the hands of this parliament.

I am not going to discuss the financial question at all. Apparently, however, the government have made up their mind not to accede to the request of the memorial presented to this parliament by the legislature this session, otherwise they would have brought down a Bill giving the same terms as had been accorded by the Autonomy Bill to the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan. But, inasmuch as it is to be left to negotiations to be carried on between representatives of the Dominion government and representatives of the provincial government and as I have every confidence that our provincial interests will be safeguarded in that respect by those in authority at the present time in the province of Manitoba, I am not going to enter into a discussion of the financial aspects of the matter farther than to enter my protest that the province has not been fairly dealt with in not hav-