

and the Local Legislature. The Local Government and the majority of the Local Legislature are of the same political stripe as the Government of the day at Ottawa, and consequently they are certainly not disposed to take a very hard view of things. Yet, what do we find? Not many weeks since a deputation of the Local Government passed through this city on their way to England to lay their grievances at the foot of the Throne. Having tried in the Local Legislature and in the Dominion Parliament, through their representatives, to secure a fulfilment of the terms of Confederation, or the nearest approach thereto possible under present circumstances, without effect, they have taken the last step to carry their complaints to the foot of the Throne. If that indicates contentment with the Government of the day it is a very strange sort of contentment indeed. For my part, I hope that, as I hinted just now, the beginning of the end of these difficulties is nearer at hand than we once anticipated, and therefore I do not care to follow up this question at present more in detail, especially as I have given notice of a motion to day which will enable me to allude to it more at large in a very short time.

As to the second paragraph, which refers to the late insurrection in the North-West, it cannot be otherwise than a matter of congratulation to every right-thinking man that the insurrection has been put down. At the same time there is a little discordance between the first portion of the second clause and the final part of it. That the insurrection has been put down is undoubtedly a fit subject for congratulation, and it is equally certain that it is the duty of the Government to adopt such precautionary arrangements as will assure the present inhabitants, as well as intending settlers, of efficient protection against all disturbance. The duties which are so clearly laid down in this clause as necessary to be performed now should have been discharged years ago and had these precautions been in force before last year, it is likely there would have been no insurrection, or if any had taken place it would probably have been of a less difficult character to deal with and resulted in less loss of life and property and pro-

bably less expense to the Dominion than was the case. I see also in other clauses of this Address further reason to take this ground. For instance I see several measures suggested, some not for the first time, others which are necessary no doubt and some which should have been adopted before, rather than after the occasion which has given rise to them—I allude to the proposed amendment to the judiciary system. We all know what the opinion of the French element in the Dominion was respecting the court which tried an unfortunate man to whom I scarcely care to allude at the present time. That amendment is desirable now, but if it had been made two or three years ago, it is quite probable that we should not have seen those painful reprieves which I think were one of the hardest additions to the sentence of the court which that unfortunate man finally underwent.

I can cordially concur in all that has been said on this side of the House with reference to the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway. I never was one of those who objected to the carrying of that road round the north shore of Lake Superior. I saw that if that road was to be of any real service to us on an occasion such as that of last year when our very existence as a Dominion might depend upon the speedy and safe transport of military armaments to the North-West, it must be an all-rail route through Canadian territory. Our very existence as a Dominion might have been annihilated had we no means of transporting men through our own territory. I remember the occasion of the former outbreak in the North-West, when difficulties occurred as to the transport of our men and military stores at Sault Ste. Marie.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—Will my honourable friend permit me to interrupt him for a moment to make an explanation about the reprieve granted to Riel? I think it would be regrettable if an erroneous impression were to go abroad on that subject. The first reprieve was to enable him to appeal to the Privy Council, and ample time was given, as we supposed, to carry his case to the foot of the Throne. It turned out that the papers which were necessary had not been sent by his counsel, and the second reprieve