

onerous undertaking, that fair, handsome and generous support that men engaged in a great national work in any country are entitled to receive at the hands, not only of the Government of the country, but of every patriotic member of Parliament. Sir, I say I have been disappointed, but I hope upon future reflection, at no distant day, when the results of this measure which we are now submitting for the approval of Parliament, and which I trust and confidently expect will obtain the sanction of this House, will be such as to compel these gentlemen, openly and candidly to admit that in taking the course which we have followed, we have done what is calculated to promote the best interests of the country, and that it has been attended with a success exceeding our most sanguine expectations. I can only say, in conclusion, after some five-and-twenty years of public life, I shall feel it the greatest source of pleasure that the quarter of a century has afforded me, as I am satisfied that my right hon. friend beside me will feel, that it crowns the success of public life, that while Premier of this country his Government were able to carry through Parliament a measure of such inestimable value to the progress of Canada; so I can feel, if I have no other bequest to leave to my children after me, the proudest legacy I would desire to leave is the record that I was able to take an active part in the promotion of this great measure by which, I believe, Canada will receive an impetus that will make it a great and powerful country at no distant date.

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