

within, and then the overflowings have carried away some of her fairest possessions. (Cheers.) So that I help my hon. friend. I tell him this: the way to strengthen the Catholic Church is to assail it, and the way to solidify and make French Canadians united—and I do not think the French Canadian is a very objectionable person, for some of the most charming men and most intelligent men I ever met were French Canadians—but still, as my hon. friend, with his superior culture, does not like them, I may tell him that if he wants to make the French Canadian permanent and the French language enduring, the way to do it is to put the backs of the people up by such assaults as he is making throughout the country. To show that I am speaking by the book, let me read some passages here. I forgot, when dealing with the race question, to read a sentence in which my hon. friend says:

"They will gradually or rapidly, as he hoped, adopt English methods and English ways of thought, and this country will be, as it ought to be, an Anglo-Saxon community."

Fancy speaking to a popular audience like this:

"We came together; we assembled in a common Parliament: but by the skilful direction of the French-Canadian vote, and the desire for power among the English, and consequent division among them, the French Canadians were ultimately able to place their feet on our necks and impose laws on us contrary to our will."

I think myself it is not too much to say that, for a man of my learned friend's experience as a statesman, it is a pretty monstrous thing, in view of his high position in Canada, to have addressed language like that to any audience. How did he tell them he intended to move this Bill? I confess the eloquence surprised me; because, although I had often heard my hon. friend in this House and elsewhere, I did not think that lyric rapture was his forte. This is the way he described it:

"And I have undertaken the task—and a more glorious task I never undertook—(loud cheers)—that I shall be the mover of that Bill."

To be the mover of a Bill of one clause,

when there was no danger, no guns pointed at my hon. friend, and to describe that as the most glorious task in his life leads me to wonder what was the character of the other glorious tasks he performed. The only comparison I can think of is this: I once called on a college friend of mine who had married for money a wife who was somewhat old, and he said to me when I was leaving at night, "What do you think of her, Davin?" "Well, Jack," I said, "I wish I had known your taste, for I think I could have got you something older than that." (Great laughter.) Well, Sir, if I had known the hon. gentleman's taste was in that direction I think I could have got him at least as glorious a task. (Cheers.) Why, Sir, when I read that, I remembered a joke of my right hon. friend the Premier the other day. That right hon. gentleman, speaking of the member for Victoria (Mr. Earle,) said, with his usual ready wit, that we were better off in this House than the House of Commons in England, for we had an "earl" amongst us. When I read that glorious statement of the hon. member for North Simcoe (Mr. McCarthy,) I thought we were better off still, for we have a hero in this House—a hero who chants his own epic, and there he sits. (Great laughter and cheers.) I say, Sir, that there is no foundation whatever for these propositions laid down by my hon. friend (Mr. McCarthy), and I will prove that these propositions are false and misleading, and that, therefore, for a statesman as my friend is, and for a man of great influence and popular power to disseminate those fallacies throughout the country, is a very great crime and a very great misdemeanor at the bar of history. I would not care in the least what he proposed to do if he did not fall into such fallacies, misleading as they are and calculated to beget ideas which may tend indeed to the disruption of this country. Now, Sir, I will prove