

both Houses, I apprehend that unless some marvellous change is wrought by the new constituencies, we shall have as little chance of obtaining justice from the new Parliament as we had from the last.

My friends here are more hopeful, and I shall be delighted, should they make a fresh appeal, to find that I have been mistaken.

A new House of Commons may take a more enlightened view of the subject, but Mr. Gladstone, who will be the leader, if the Liberals win, has twice spoken and voted against us. As matters stand, then, we have not a very cheerful outlook, nor are the remedies, which are now freely talked of all over this once loyal Province, pleasant to contemplate. I have for months set my face steadily against revolutionary movements, annexation intrigues, or open resistance to the law, but I will not disguise from you that it may be very difficult to stem the tide of public opinion that the rejection of enquiry by a new Parliament may set in motion, unless, in the meantime, some large and substantial measure of reparation and justice is offered by the Government of the Dominion.

Holding these opinions and foreseeing the dangers to be encountered, I am content to take the risk of this correspondence, of which I am quite aware that persons more sanguine of success will entirely disapprove.

I have shewn your letter to a few judicious friends here, and shall show it to others, including, of course, the Members of the House of Commons as they come up to town; and I intend to make no secret of the fact that such a correspondence is going on. I am asked every day if I have taken office, or "accepted the situation" as the phrase goes. My answer is that I have accepted nothing, but recognizing the obligation imposed by the Imperial upon the Canadian Government, I mean to discuss the whole subject with them in a frank and earnest manner. Some of my friends here are apprehensive that the fact of such a correspondence going on, will weaken their chance of getting Repeal from the new House of Commons. If I thought so I would break it off to-morrow, but, as it must close long before the time arrives for making that appeal, I am content to continue it, in the belief that no harm and some good will arise out of a free interchange of our opinions.

Whether we remain united, or ultimately separate, it is of the utmost consequence that the feelings of exasperation which recent events provoked among the people of British America should be allayed. The arrogant, petulant and hasty manner in which this measure was, from the first, forced upon our people aroused their passions. The visit of the Canadian Ministers here was the first movement in the right direction, and in your letter of the 6th inst. I recognize a spirit of fairness which I am prompt to acknowledge.

From the first we were much alarmed by the financial aspects of the scheme, your assurance that these shall be revised and substantial justice done is very satisfactory. Mr. Annand cannot go to Ottawa, somebody else may, but as the distance is great, we may be able to arrive at common conclusions by a simpler method. Mr. McLelan has already sent to Mr. Rose the substance of a speech which he delivered in the House of Commons last session. Enclosed you will find copies of a speech made by Mr. Annand.

Glancing over those papers you will perceive that, if not Confede-

Sir