

country, I am satisfied, would rebuke them in the words of a great French orator, Mr. Paul Deschanel:

How we do prefer these wise great men who set a limit to their field of activity and keep the upper hand over situations which they have themselves marked out. They first modify their plans to suit the men and things they have to deal with, but later on these will be made to conform to their views. They abide with their times, in order to better influence and direct them; they hold what they have, because they are careful not to take more than they are able to hold. How we do prefer those well-tempered, subtle and keen minds, a Richelieu, a Frederick, a Cavour, to those demi-gods, those fatal and often blind powers, who by their wild leaps and foolish ventures, throw entirely politics out of kelter.

Sir, such are the few considerations suggested to me by our political situation. I firmly believe that we have wisely carried on the work outlined in days bygone by the pioneers of this country. We should remain confident. To-day the attention of the whole world is centered on Canada. Its resources are known, its success applauded. With sufficient boldness and self confidence, Canada goes on its way, showing its prodigious force of expansion. Its merchant navy scours the seas, and last year we were building railways in countries as far distant as Austria. Its happy inhabitants are full of energy and of hope. Given its resources, the wealth it holds from a bountiful nature, the intellectual forces which are at its disposal, it is bound to make rapid progress on the road to success, whose horizon expands infinitely before our eyes. Canada is bound to grow, full of youthful confidence and vigour; and thanks to the carrying out of a healthy and rational policy, we shall witness with pride the fulfilment of its glorious destinies. Canada for ever.

Mr. Speaker, the Government has done me a great honour, an honour to me in person, an honour to my compatriots, an honour to my province, in entrusting to me the moving of this resolution, an honour accorded to but one other of my tongue during the past fifteen years. This circumstance gives evidence of the good harmony and sympathy which unite my province to the present administration.

Canada to-day is in a condition of unexampled prosperity. Our financial position has never been so good, our customs receipts are increasing by leaps and bounds, our commerce is expanding with lightning rapidity, railroads are spreading their network over the whole Dominion. In all other departments of government there is the same story of abounding increase and prosperity. And all this without reciprocity with the United States. Would that those great statesmen Macdonald and Cartier

could view to-day the magnificent superstructure being erected on the foundations which they so ably assisted in laying.

It is with pride, Sir, I refer to the coincidence that the mover and seconder of this Address have the honour to represent in Parliament the two constituencies formerly represented by these distinguished statesmen, Kingston and Verchères.

Sir, perhaps the most important subject which will engage the attention of Parliament this session is the relations between Canada and the Mother Country. In this connection, the Prime Minister and three of his colleagues have recently held conferences with the Imperial Authorities. The result of these deliberations will be given soon to Parliament. My confidence in the Prime Minister is such that when his proposals are announced, I have no reason to doubt that they will be found to be of such a character as to meet with the approval of my fellow citizens of the province of Quebec in common with the rest of the Dominion, because, Sir, we have had the advantage of being a great part of a great Empire, and our success in the past should incite us to so continue, and in that union we shall always know and feel that from across the sea Britain with her arm extended bids us to be of good cheer, and hurl defiance at those who would dare to oppress us.

Mr. W. F. NICKLE (Kingston): Mr. Speaker, since the days when Frontenac, that most intrepid French administrator, first pitched his tents on the shores of what was then known as the Catarqui river, in the hope of diverting the fur trade of the north and west from New York and the Hudson to Quebec and the St. Lawrence, Kingston has played a not ignoble part in the history of Canada, and on her behalf, Sir, I desire to express appreciation to the right hon. the leader of the Government for his recognition of her in allowing her representative to be heard at this time in what promises to be one of Canada's most historic sessions of parliament. Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, it is not amiss at a time like this that I should extend to the right hon. the leader of the Opposition the sincere sympathy of those of my fellow citizens of Kingston who do not happen to be of my political faith, at the irreparable loss his party has sustained during the present year in the unexpected death of Sir Richard Cartwright. He was known to us Kingstonians as a courteous courtly Canadian, a man of strong views, who had a singular aptitude for saying what he thought; and, Sir, I feel that, without contradiction from this side of the House, or from that, I may say that Canadian public life is the poorer for the loss