

Royal Colonial Institute, by the care with which it seeks to foster the spirit of mutual attachment between England and her colonies, stretching as they do through all the habitable parts of the globe, deserves the approbation and hearty thanks of every true British subject? (Great applause.)

The Hon. DONALD A. SMITH: After what you have heard from Mr. Begg and the different speakers who have followed him, I am sure you will feel that anything from me can be of very little interest indeed. I feel it so myself. But I must say we are greatly indebted to Mr. Begg for his excellent, interesting, and instructive Paper. (Hear, hear.) Knowing Mr. Begg, as I have done for many years, I felt sure, on learning that he was to read the Paper, that he would do his work heartily and well. It gives me much pleasure also to hear my old and much respected friend Governor Archibald. I knew him in the first years of the organisation of Manitoba and the North-West in connection with Canada, and I know how well and admirably he administered the affairs of both. (Hear, hear.) Without disparaging any Lieutenant-Governor who has followed him, I may say we perhaps never have had one who did so well—no one, in fact, could have done better under the circumstances—the exceptional and difficult circumstances—with which he had to contend. (Applause.) He came immediately after the insurrection, when things were very unsettled, and when he left he had done a great deal to develop and consolidate the North-West. Just a word by way of correction. In speaking of the first efforts to reach the country Mr. Begg mentioned Mr. Hill, Mr. Stephen, and others, but did not at the time think of another gentleman who did a very great deal to open the country—I mean Mr. Norman William Kittson, the gentleman who first introduced steam navigation on the Red River, and not Mr. Hill, who followed and also did good work in the same direction. Before Governor Archibald there was a little episode in the history of the country perhaps worth relating. At Portage la Prairie, a very excellent man, Mr. Spence, not satisfied with the Government of Assiniboia, formed a government of his own, and got an attorney-general and a councillor. But there was high treason. The councillor rebelled, and it is said they held a council on him, and condemned him. (Laughter.) But he was a sturdy man, and being stronger than the others put together, routed them; and such was the collapse of that other government. (Laughter.) It has been mentioned that we have prohibition in the North-West—a law preventing the introduction of spirituous liquors. It is not generally known that to the Hudson's Bay Company is owing the introduction of the law. At the last meeting of the company as a government, in June, 1870—I happened myself to preside at the council—a resolution was passed prohibiting the introduction of spirituous liquors into the country. Immediately on the formation of Manitoba my friend Mr. Archibald appointed councillors for the North-West, and at their first council this law was confirmed. That is