

have been obliged to differ from him on public questions. In the past I have been glad to recognize him as my leader in all that I have attempted to do in the interests of the party. I shall now refer briefly to the paragraphs in the Address in which my province is interested. With reference to the harvest of last year I am happy to say that in Manitoba and the North-West, the crops have on the whole been good. Early frosts destroyed the hopes of many who expected extraordinary crops, and some parts of the country have suffered more than others. We suffered in the vicinity of Winnipeg; but 60 miles from us, at Portage La Prairie, no damage was sustained from the frost at all. We have ample supplies of wheat not only for our own wants but also for those who require seed grain.

The next paragraph refers to the late troubles in the North-West which caused great anxiety throughout the country. They might have produced very serious consequences indeed. I know at Winnipeg fears were entertained that the city might be ruined. A disaster was averted through the promptitude with which help was sent from the Eastern Provinces, and now, since the troubles have ended, we are glad to find that the Government have come to the relief of the sufferers. Ample supplies of grain and provisions have been sent to relieve those who have been brought to want through the troubles. I hope there will be no repetition of the experience of last year. It was the work, and organization and scheme of 15 years time, and I am satisfied that people who are capable or desirous of bringing about such troubles are very few in the Dominion.

The clause with reference to the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway is one of deep interest to the people of the whole Dominion. It was my good fortune to echo the words of the Speech from the Throne in 1872. It was a pleasant duty for me, and it is equally pleasant for me now to be able to announce that that great artery will ere long be completed from ocean to ocean. It has taken some years to finish the work. There was an interruption, the consequence of which we have had to stand, but a few months hence we will see the end of the work; it will be possible in the

course of next summer to proceed by continuous rail communication from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Certainly the Government which has provided the means of completing such a wonderful work deserves our credit. While there may be much in their administration which we cannot approve, we must recognize all that they have done towards the completion of that road, and the country should certainly be proud of such rulers. They should also be gratified to possess such men as those who assumed the responsibility of carrying out such a gigantic undertaking, and who have brought it to such a successful completion. They are certainly entitled to the gratitude of the country and should be recognized as the best promoters of the prosperity and greatness of the Dominion.

Allusion is made in the Address to the large expenditures incurred in the suppression of the late outbreak. It is true that the expenses have been heavy, but some good results have been obtained. Sometimes it happens that evil produces good; it has been so in this case. We know the depressed condition in which Winnipeg stood, up to last year. Business was at a standstill; but now it is admitted by everyone that the troubles in the North-West broke the jam, if I may use the expression, and business has become more active. The Government have certainly had something to do in bringing about that result; they applied the oil to the wheels, and the machinery has been moving ever since in such a way as to give satisfaction to the population in that vast country. The proposed measure to give representation in this Parliament to the North-West Territories will prove highly satisfactory to the people residing there. If it had been possible to give them such representation sooner, possibly the troubles of last year would not have arisen. Those who would have been sent here as their representatives would have explained their position to the Government, and I think it would have been easy for them to have prevented those troubles and the serious consequences which have followed them, and the large expenditures incurred. Certainly it would have been very easy to have stopped the Indians. They were incited to rise and could not have created an outbreak otherwise. I think it is possible