

Mr. Mowat—and if he is not kept there, he will be made a colonisation road inspector or a license inspector, and will receive promotion in the grand army of freedom and reform. Since recess I have been looking over some papers, and my attention has been called to an article published in a Manitoba journal, as showing that this party acrimony ceases not, that it has no limits. It is an article published by the *Winnipeg Times* from the *Winnipeg Free Press*. That paper is edited and controlled by a western Reformer, who lived in the county of Middlesex, who had been a strong politician there, although not an active one, and published a Reform newspaper at that time. He went to Winnipeg, still remained a member of the Reform party and supporter of the Reform cause—if they have any cause—at all events, he supported the “lost cause” and has done much towards promoting trouble and spreading dissatisfaction.” The *Free Press*, about the 2nd of July, says :

“ Apparently, the old battle of responsible government will have to be fought all over again in this new western country. The people of the North-West may as well recognise the fact at once and prepare for the struggle. Surely another rebellion, accompanied by the loss of hundreds of more lives and millions of treasure, will not be necessary to bring the Government to their senses. The Opposition in and out of Parliament will aid them to the utmost.”

The declaration is, that in and out of Parliament the Opposition will aid the rebels to the utmost. They will not justify the rebellion, but they justify the rebels. It means that we have again to fight the battle as to whether we are to proceed on national or provincial lines, and whether we are going to be one people or not, or whether everything has to be sacrificed for the sake of office. Sir, the man who utilises a Provincial or sectional question of so serious a nature as that under discussion, for the purpose of promoting partisan interests, commits a crime against order and does violence to the constitution under which he lives. This the Opposition is now doing. The sober second thought of the people however is with us. We know that were we to-morrow to appeal to the country our candidates would be elected by vast majorities. Hon. gentlemen opposite declare that this Government has shown incapacity, imbecility and ignorance. Let me ask hon. gentlemen opposite how many seats they have redeemed in Ontario since 1882? We have the honor of having the hon. member for Bothwell here, and I am sure if he would devote his great ability to defending his country and fighting for its interests he would occupy a much higher position before the people. I ask hon. gentlemen opposite what they have gained? The hon. member for West-Durham (Mr. Blake) went to Lennox; I was there. Instead of propounding a policy he undertook to abuse me. Sir, I may have erred in my private capacity, but I have made no mistake, as a member of Parliament, that I know of. I have fought the battle fairly. All I asked in Lennox was that I should have a fair field, for I did not ask any favor. But the hon. gentleman behind my back maligned me, and made statements which I have already disproved upon the floor of Parliament. Then we had a contest in West Northumberland a few weeks ago; what was the result? A larger majority than ever for the Conservative candidate. Again, hon. gentlemen opposite had another opening in Grenville. What was the result? They were defeated, horse, foot and artillery. The constituency returned by acclamation one who formerly held a seat in this House, an able and esteemed gentleman, who will be a strength to the Conservative party. This is the answer that has gone abroad, this is the answer that should be a warning to hon. gentlemen. They must understand that the good, sterling, honest, common sense of the people always prevails. The people are reading and thinking all the time. They know the motives of men; they know what politicians are; they make allowances for their weaknesses and admire their strength. When there is nothing but weakness on one side, and a small amount of weakness and great strength

on the other, the people will go where there is a small amount of weakness and a great amount of strength. I have shown, Sir, that throughout their administration of affairs, those who called themselves a Reform Government, by their inaction and indifference, laid the foundation of much of the trouble that has disturbed the North-West—So complicating matters that their successors in office found it difficult to adjust claims without lengthy and careful investigation. I have shown that gentlemen opposite have decried the country and thus prevented capital and immigration flowing in; that Louis Riel admits that hard times and no money prompted disaffection and led to the terrible outbreak of March last, and that instead of assisting the Government, the Opposition policy was a virtual expression of sympathy with the rebels. Sir, I am prepared to leave with this House and country the question of relative merits between the Opposition and Administration of the day. The facts are before them, the record of both parties is before them, and it will be for those who constitute the jury to render a verdict in accordance with the evidence. Mr. Speaker, I regret having occupied the time of the House so long; but I feel a deep, an almost overwhelming interest in this question, and that now and forever must the problem be solved as to whether this is going to be a united Dominion or a mere plaything for politicians and partisans. We have heard hon. members, in recent debates, here and in other places, endeavoring to stir up sectional ill-feeling. Why, Sir, the hon. member for East Quebec (Mr. Laurier), said :

“ It will not do for the hon. gentleman to attempt to arouse the prejudices of the masses with respect to this matter.”

Who is arousing prejudices? Who moved the amendment? He has said that the Government was so guilty that those men were justified in making some show of resistance? I do not assert that these hon. gentlemen justify the rebellion; but I hold that they justify it in such a way and to such an extent that people of common sense will know that if they do as their papers did, in March and April last, condemn the Government for everything that has taken place, these people in the North-West will feel that, if at any time they rebel again and run up the black flag there will be found those who sympathise with them, in the Province of Ontario, at least. I know there are men on that side of the House who are as sincere and as true and loyal men, not only to their country, but to their Queen, as could possibly be found on this side; hence the great danger is, that by the bitterness with which we are conducting our political warfare, and the extremes to which we are carrying our political animosities, we will bring about the evils to which I have referred; and until we learn to subdue that bitterness of feeling, learn to stand unitedly for our country and our country's interest, when that country is in danger, we will jeopardise, every hour and every day, the interests, the institutions and the progress of the Dominion. The hon. Member for Quebec East, further said :

“ There are prejudices in this country of many kinds. We are not so built up as nation as to forget our origin, and I say frankly that the people of my own Province, who have a community of origin, undoubtedly sympathise with Louis Riel, just as the sympathies of the people of Ontario go altogether in the other direction.”

Now, I feel that an hon. gentleman representing a city where a monument has been raised to the memory of those two great heroes and commanders, Wolfe and Montcalm, a sacred column, a memento of peace, harmony and union between the two great races—a gentleman representing that city could well have afforded to put aside the question of race and of origin. We know that every day the people of the Province of Quebec, both French and English, are becoming more and more welded into one; and we know that our interests in Ontario are to maintain the best spirit of harmony amongst all classes and races in the Province of Quebec, and jointly to work out the problem of laying deep