

ask England to admit us to the full share of Briton's rights, to give us some share in the control of her foreign affairs along with herself? We dare not do it, we cannot do it, we are under a ban unless we purge ourselves. (*Loud cheers.*)

Sir, if the hon. gentleman wants to preserve the connection, he will resign his office; if this House wants to preserve the connection it will turn him out of office, and will tell him we are in Canada governed by those same principles of political morality which govern the English people.

Mr. Speaker, I know too well the influence by which the election was carried so far as it has been carried. I know also what influences prevail to a large extent in this House. I am not prepared to go the length that the Minister of Customs did with reference to his own supporters, but it cannot be denied that his House is, to a certain extent, a purchased House. Gentlemen opposite have said that every one of their supporters is branded with Sir Hugh Allan's mark. The Minister of Customs told us that the amount given by Sir Hugh Allan amounted to a trifle divided among eighty constituencies. He told every man behind him who was returned for Ontario that he had tasted of the accursed thing, that he had partaken of this money in securing his election. We all know that a great many of the constituencies were carried by acclamation, and in others the contest was merely nominal. By these we may reduce the area over which Sir Hugh's dollars and other funds were distributed, but, all said and done, there is no doubt a considerable element of truth in the statement of the hon. gentleman. (*Cheers.*) I am not disposed to quarrel with it; I am disposed to let him and his followers settle that between themselves.

All I can say, as I am not prepared to agree with the wholesale accusation he made, I am prepared to believe there are some of the supporters of the Government who did not receive any of this money, but there must have been several who did, and I can understand the answer that a Ministry may give to those of their partisans to whom they have advanced money, and who may now be saying this is a very black business. We do not see how we can give this vote.

I can quite understand the answer to those gentlemen. They say, "What right have you to say so? You took the money, and now, forsooth, you are going to blame us who got it for you. You are equally responsible with ourselves." Some such conversation I can fancy has taken place, and some men, I am convinced, will vote upon this occasion, knowing that they received money from the Government, vote that the transaction which procured it for them was an honourable transaction. That was the unfortunate position with reference to both Ontario and Quebec. But for that money, I have not the slightest doubt the majority against the Government in this House would be much larger than it is to be on the motion of the member for Lambton (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie). (*Cheers.*) As it is, I believe, it will be sufficient for the occasion. (*Cheers.*)

Other influences, I am aware, are here being used. I would fain believe that their *ruse* will not be successful. I am loath to suppose that it should ever be said of a Canadian Parliament, what a poet of

the neighbouring Republic has said of the representative body of that country, when he described it thus:—

"Underneath yon dome, whose coping  
Spirits above them, vast and tall,  
Grave men in the dust are groping  
For the largest, mean and small,  
Which the hand of power is scattering,  
Crumbs that from the table fall.  
Base of heart! They vilely barter  
Honour's, wealth, for party place;  
Step by step on Freedom's charter,  
Leaving footprints of disgrace,  
For the day's poor pittance,  
Turning from the great hope of their race."

(*Cheers.*) I do not believe it. I do not believe that any such influences as we have reason to know have been used, and are being used, will be successful here. It is true we have men sitting here and voting here with the promise of office and preferment, in their pocket. We have men who vote here to-day who may, for all we know, be Governors tomorrow (*hear, hear*), or who may be officers in various departments tomorrow. We have men who may be so influenced, but I trust they will not be so influenced, for I say not in any spirit of rhetorical flourish, but as my sincere conviction of the truth, that the name of every man who shall vote against the proposition of my hon. friend from Lambton will be a marked name, a disgraced name. (*Loud cheers, and confusion and cries of "order."*) Hon. gentlemen seem moved by that remark. It would not be at all Parliamentary for me to say after the vote that the vote was a disgraceful vote unless I propose to rescind it, but it is perfectly legitimate for me, before the vote is taken, to express my opinion of the vote and of those who so vote.

**Mr. ALMON:** And we will take it for what it is worth.

**Hon. Mr. BLAKE:** And I venture to say, standing here as an humble member of this House, known not to have any aspirations for office, that the hon. gentleman will find before many hours are over that it is worth a good deal. (*Great cheering.*) I believe that this night or tomorrow night will be the end of 20 years of corruption. (*Government cheers.*) This night or tomorrow night will see the dawn of a brighter and better day in this administration of public affairs in the country. (*Continued cheering.*)

I am not concerned to answer—I disdain to answer the foul charges which the First Minister hurled against individual members on this side, and against this side as a whole. My best answer is by my utter abstinence from such charges against gentlemen opposite. I have endeavoured so far as I could to confine myself to fair