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our success in carrying out the confederated plan of Government has given rise to a discussion in other parts of the British Colonial Empire, with a view to establish a similar system. (Cheers.) We occupy a very peculiar position on this continent, I have mentioned in some former speeches that I believed it was for the interests of humanity, certainly for the interests of North America,—that there should be two political systems in active operation on this Continent,—we in Canada represent a Democratic people, with a monarchical head—a people enjoying the utmost possible freedom that can be enjoyed by any people, and at the same time owing allegiance to one of the mildest sovereigns that ever swayed the political destinies of any part of the earth. Our consins to the south of us possess in some respects many advantages over us. They possess the fairest portions of the continent. They have in one way and another possession of many of the great natural avenues that lead to the interior of the continent; they, in short, present the spectacle of the elder son of some great British house getting hold of nearly all the family possessions, and utilizing them to his own advantage, while the rest of the family was sent adrift afterwards. We might safely say that the law of primogeniture prevailed here so far as the United States were concerned, and the people resident in those States at the time of their formation into a new national union, believed that they could shut us out also in the course of time from the one great avenue left to us, that is the St. Lawrence. (Hear, hear.) Well, Sir, we have no quarrel with the people of the United States. We wish them abundant prosperity. We wished them abundant prosperity when Canada was the only refuge on the continent for those whom they held in bondage. We wished them all possible success in the mighty effort made by the people to rid themselves of that moral blot, and nobly did they respond to the invitation of the world to do it. If we desire now to conduct the affairs of the continent between us, we as a British community on the northern half and they as a British community occupying the other half of the northern portion (for after all they are a British Colony like ourselves, they existing under different political institutions), it is ours now to utilize the advantages that are left to us in settling that great heritage which lies before us, and which has been so admirably and graphically described by His Excellency tonight. We have in the confederation the maritime provinces standing away cut in the Atlantic as sentries on duty, inviting the emigrant and tourist to visit our magnificent scenery and beautiful cities. You have in the city of Quebec possession of the gateway to the interior at that wonderful and almost unprecedented connection, for it is impossible to find, except perhaps the Amazon and Mississippi, any other river so good. (Cheers.) His Excellency has pointed out tonight very beautifully the position that you hold as the one historic city of the continent, and the necessity of maintaining the peculiar features which at once bring all the features of its great past in review before us. It is perhaps more as one of those employed in directing the political affairs of the country, to call your attention to the duties which you owe to this Dominion and to yourselves in utilizing the magnificent harbour which you possess, and your undoubted advantages of carrying on an enormous commerce, so as to present to the incoming immigrant and incoming tourist, the spectacle of a great city utilizing its advantages with that energy and perseverance which is characteristic of our people. (Applause.) I was not a little proud

last year, when on a visit to England, and in London to learn that the toast of the Mayors and cities of the Continent of America was replied to by the Mayor of the City of Quebec. Then came, I believe, the Mayor of New York, as being the largest city on the Continent, and representing perhaps, more than you its commercial interests and political importance; but I ventured to tell some of our English friends in London, that I held it impossible that the toast could have fallen into more appropriate hands than those of the Mayor of the City of Quebec. (Hear, hear.) Both as concerns the importance of the city and its ancient character, we have, Sir, as I remarked a moment ago, a serious task and a noble one to perform, that of justifying the form of Government that we have adopted. We have another task before us also—that of utilizing the great natural advantages that we possess. It is no easy matter to penetrate the continent, to reach the interior thousands of miles by one highway, but that highway has been so well trodden down that there was no doubt of the vast multitude that will there seek for themselves comfortable homes in the interior, where we may expect to see millions of inhabitants in that wonderful country which we now know so little, but which has been characterized within the last four years by an English traveller as 'the great lone land.' We have within the past few months established telegraphic communication some 25 000 miles west of Quebec, and we hope within a comparatively short period to be able to carry all the population that can go to that country without difficulty over our own railways and through our own territory, to occupy the lands that are still to be found there. Within the last few years Canada has succeeded in planting a sentinel upon the far off shores of the Pacific, and all will admit, who have witnessed the debates in Parliament on documents that have been published that it would be hard indeed to establish a more cheerful and lively sentinel than we have in British Columbia. (Hear, hear.) Wishing all possible prosperity to our youngest brother, it rests with the older Provinces to guard to extend, to utilize those that are comparatively small, and to extend to the smaller branches in the North West all possible protection we can afford to do so far as our means will permit to accomplish it, and I am sure that there is nothing that is more dear to the heart of every one of you than to have in your power to say that you have aided in establishing a happy and contented community on the shores of one sea to the shores of the other. While we were extending the prestige and power of the British name, we were extending also the limits of our once very circumscribed area and population, for in order to retain national power we must endeavour to extend our borders, use all our advantages, and exercise our intellect. We have a vast country to inhabit; it has vast resources which no man can at present venture to calculate. But we know this, that in this vast region of territory there exist resources far superior to those which the Mother Country has possessed, and wealth of minerals, and wealth particularly of coals and iron, those great minerals that go to make the wealth of a nation, which will produce in a comparatively near future what no man can at present dream of. But while we may be at present, like the rest of the world, under somewhat depressed circumstances, we are not reduced to the necessity which some European nations have been reduced to, when I have observed lately in the papers, for I find that one Government at least has simply edict announced that all its paper falling due on the 1st July would not be considered matured till the 1st Oct.

(Laughter.) Perhaps that would be very convenient for many of us to do today but it would be very disastrous. We have simply to wait and wait, and we have to work, and with your work and earnest industry I entertain no doubt that we shall be able in a very short period to surmount the commercial difficulties which have cast a temporary shadow across our prosperity. (Cheers.) The Government which I represent must necessarily take a lively interest in all that concerns the prosperity of this city, not merely because it is your city, but because your forefathers with wonderful wisdom seized upon it as the best possible spot on the St. Lawrence whereon to found their city, in order there to prepare for coming events. The rest of Canada cannot do without Quebec; cannot do without its harbour; cannot do without the facilities which it can afford to the growing trade of the country, and it is my business to utilize as far as possible the advantages it affords, acting with your own citizens under the powers which you have. I am sorry to see we have not hitherto used those advantages as extensively as we ought. I am happy that between us, that is the Government of Canada and the citizens of Quebec, such progress may be made within the next two or three years as that it will not be necessary to build a coffer dam around a steamer when she comes into port to be caulked. We must see to getting a ship into a dry spot when necessary. As far as the Government is concerned, it will be its bounden duty to endeavour to assist you as far as possible in overcoming the natural obstacles which still exist, and providing for those facilities which are absolutely necessary for a great trade. I thank you again on behalf of the Government for the toast you have drunk, and I would merely say in conclusion that it may be my lot sometime, I do not know how soon, to meet here and toast another Government and another Premier, and I shall join in it as heartily as you have done in the one given me. (Laughter and applause.)

After other toasts were given and drunk, the proceedings were brought to a close a few minutes past midnight.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the VOLUNTEER REVIEW. The real name of the writer must invariably accompany each communication to insure insertion, but not necessarily for publication.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SIR,—In the list of Colonial Militia published in the English Army List, and which is corrected by Authority from Ottawa up to 31st January, the Grand Trunk Brigade is still allowed to appear as part of our Active Militia force, although it is now some time since this Brigade ceased to exist.

I am one who hates to sail under false colors, or to pretend to anything we have not, so hope you will draw the attention of the 'Authority' in question to the above.

HONEST JOHN.

16th May, 1876.

In the French Chamber of Deputies on Tuesday Duc Dornano, Bonapartist, introduced a bill granting subsidy of the press.—The bill empowering the Municipality of Paris to contract a loan of \$24,000,000 for the completion of great public works passed by a large majority.