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THE SENATE DEBATES

SIXTH SESSION—SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

No. 38

Monday, 23rd March, 1896

THE SENATE.

Ottawa, Monday, 23rd March, 1896.

THE SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

A PERMANENT INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL

MOTION.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON moved

That the Senate is of opinion that the time has come when the consideration of the formation of a permanent International Tribunal may with advantage be entered upon, with the view of affording the various nations the requisite security and protection from a constant liability to the most costly and destructive warfare.

He said: In bringing this motion before this House many hon. gentlemen may think that I am taking a very advanced position, that I am entering upon a new subject that perhaps should not emanate from a body like the Canadian Senate. However, I hope to convince hon. gentlemen before I have got through that it is quite proper, and quite in accord with the principles of our constitution, that it is quite in accord with the sentiments of the Canadian people, and that it is quite abreast of the times in bringing before the House a subject of this character. I may say that one of the motives that I had in bringing this subject before this House sprung from the fact that I was brought into contact with some open letters that were published, addressed to the Marquis of Salisbury, the premier of Great Britain, and as hon. gentlemen know, were written by one with

whom we are all familiar, if not personally at any rate we are all familiar with his presence. He has resided in Ottawa a great number of years, in fact I believe he is a native of Ottawa, and has taken advantage of our library and of our reading room in order to employ his time and improve his mind upon the lines that he has laid down for his own guidance. Hon. gentlemen know that I am referring to our respected friend, Mr. Monk. Mr. Monk deserves great respect. Although the appearance that he presents to the eyes of the world is similar, we may suppose, to the appearance of the savants of the ancient times, yet notwithstanding all that, he is one who is entitled to every respect, and any opinion that he expresses on a subject of this kind is entitled to respect by this hon. House and by the country at large. I may say that the deductions which he draws in the letters which he has addressed to the Marquis of Salisbury are the results of a lifetime of study of the Scriptures and of familiarity with the scenes in the holy land connected with them, and when he presents to us in the form of open letters that are addressed to the Marquis of Salisbury the studies of a life in the way he has done, they mark a new departure, I may say, in political life. The letters to which I refer are essentially political, in so far as they are addressed to a great statesman and in so far as they deal with political matters. In that respect we are perfectly justified in dealing with them from a political standpoint, and we are, therefore, justified in discussing the question as a political question. No one can fail to be struck with the fact that what is known as the Victorian era has been marked by the most marvellous results of advancement and progress, that the advancement