

"I merely wish--"

THE CHAIRMAN: Who is Mr. Miller?

MR. McMASTER: He must have been a member of Parliament.

MR. BOWMAN: He was at that time member for South Grey, in Ontario.

MR. McMASTER (Reading):

"I merely wish to read an extract from a letter I have received from a gentleman residing in the West in what will be the new province of Alberta. This letter is one of a series that I have received from the same gentleman:

'In passing it might not be too much out of place to observe that whatever the government may grant in the way of provincial autonomy I trust it will retain control of the lands. I do not think it would be in the interest of this country to have those affairs administered by the provincial authorities. From the very nature of the industries in western Assiniboia, there exist very strong companies, and those would wield too great an influence to the detriment of individual interests.'"

Then Mr. J. H. Lamont (Saskatchewan), April 11th, page 4336. I presume that is the gentleman who now adorns the Supreme Court of Canada.

"Now, as to the question whether the provinces should own the public lands. I have no hesitation in in saying that I am satisfied that the best interests of the provinces are being furthered by the retaining by this government of the public lands and the giving to the provinces compensation in lieu thereof. It is in our best interest that these lands should be settled as

**POOR
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