

carried on with the United States. Surely that must be the case if we were to enjoy fully that peace which had been purchased at the sacrifice of our territorial rights? (*Hear, hear.*) The difference between the amount of interest which would have been payable on Canadian bonds without the Imperial guarantee and the amount payable on those bonds with the guarantee was all the advantage we gained. It did not, according to his calculations, amount to more than \$150,000. This was what was to be accepted as an equivalent for the valuable rights surrendered; and more than that, it had not even been offered, but Ministers had placed themselves in one humiliating position of having asked it at the hands of the Imperial Government. (*Hear, hear.*) The paltriness of the advantage, if it was an advantage at all, he had mentioned the other night in some remarks he had made on the budget speech of the Minister of Finance, and what he had heard since only confirmed him in his opinion.

Nothing would ever remove the feeling and sense of degradation with which he was filled at the Government of this country literally humiliating themselves in the dust to crave that instead of a settlement of these Fenian claims, which they had forborne to press upon the attention of England when they ought to have been pressed, instead of demanding redress from those who had done the wrong, they should receive this wretched consideration of money. (*Hear, hear.*) He believed that this country was able and willing to repay principal and interest, all the money it ought to be necessary to borrow, without begging from the Imperial Government for favours in exchange for undoubted territorial rights. He believed Canada would have been abundantly able to obtain upon its own security and almost upon as favourable terms as upon endorsement of the British Government every dollar requisite to carry out all the necessary and desirable works of improvement; and believing that, he felt that, on no consideration ought we to yield our honor at the shrine of Mammon, on no consideration ought we to have bartered away our heritage for this questionable equivalent of money.

He thought the House, and he was sure the great body of people

of the country, felt so too; and he hoped that vote which would be given up on this Bill would redound to the dignity and independence of Parliament, would prove our devotion to the true interests of the Empire and honor of Canada, and would be a fearless assertion of our rights as people and our dignity as British subjects, such as he believed would be sustained by the public opinion of the country. (*Cheers.*)

Hon. Mr. BLAKE moved an adjournment of the debate.

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD asked the hon. gentleman if it was intended to oppose the first reading. If not, the Bill ought now to be read and the remainder of the discussion could be carried on upon the second reading.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said if the motion for the first reading was fixed for an early day he would not oppose the first reading now.

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he would set it down on the orders for Tuesday.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE asked that it should then be made the first order.

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD would not make any promise upon that point. It was possible the bill would not be printed in time, and in any case there was other business which the Government desired to go on with first on Tuesday.

Hon. Messrs. BLAKE, MACKENZIE and others, pressed that the Bill should be made the first order on Tuesday, but Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald refused to yield, and finally they abandoned the attempt to fix a time for resuming the debate.

The Bill was then read a first time, and the House adjourned at 11.15 p.m.