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we have a vast extent of country, stretching from ocean to ocean; we are of different races, we speak different languages, we have different forms of religious faith; and we are all in the early stages of material and social development. Our representatives in Parliament come up from all sections of our wide domain eager to do well for their special constituencies, and too apt to forget the interests of the whole. The urgent solicitations for concessions—reasonable concessions if the public chest were exhaustless—that are constantly coming up from all directions to the Ministry of the day, are without end; and the men who have the firmness and the ability and the tact to promote right, resist wrong, and seek to mould the discordant elements into a harmonious whole, deserve and ought to receive the cordial sympathy and support of every member of this Chamber. It is utterly impossible that the wit of man could avoid errors in the administration of affairs so vast and multifarious, but I confess I have risen from an earnest and thorough examination of the public affairs and accounts of the Dominion with high gratification at the ability, the uprightness, the economy, and the marked success with which my hon. friend and his colleagues now governing the country have fulfilled their difficult task since they assumed office. "Ah, but," exclaims the hon. gentleman "there is a deficit!" Yes, there is a deficit—unfortunately there is a deficit. But it is because the right men are in the right place that that deficit is not infinitely greater. It is because men of ability and sagacity are at the helm that, in spite of two consecutive deficits, every obligation of the country has been met to the hour,—the credit of the country was never before so high in the money markets of the world,—and the Canadian people have unshaken confidence that the revenue and expenditure will be speedily equalized without undue pressure on the industry and commerce of the country. When the leaders of the Liberal party warned you [turning to the Conservative leaders across the floor] in 1873 of the coming financial storm, you scorned their advice and went on committing the country to enormous obligations. When you were driven from power for your corruption and incapacity, and they asked in 1874 for increased supplies to meet that coming storm—you treated their demand with derision, you denied its necessity and opposed it at every turn. When Mr. Cartwright negotiated his first famous loan in London—that stands unequalled as a financial success in the history of this or any other colony, that raised the credit of Canada higher than ever it stood before, and that carried the country safely through the enormous difficulties you had created—you decried the great public service he achieved, and maligned the negotiator. And when the Finance Minister struck the happy time—not one moment too soon—achieved his second successful loan, and carried the ship of