

and your Ministers may count upon my best efforts in furtherance of every measure that can contribute to the strength and honour of the Dominion of Canada."

In the same connection he desired to say that although he bore so humble a part in the construction and completion—and he hoped to bear a conspicuous part in the consolidation of the Dominion of Canada—it was to him one of the sweetest and dearest memories of his life, and there was nothing he possessed he valued so much as a copy of the silver medal struck in honour of Confederation; therefore it would ill become him because of these difficulties to talk of secession, or to attempt to destroy one particle of what he considered as partly his own handiwork. In looking over the papers this morning he desired to show what a change had come over the dream of the great Liberal party, and how these changes were premonitory of coming dissolution. Look at the great Reform party of Great Britain, with Gladstone at their head. They came in with a powerful following, but in a very short time it was shattered to the winds by one or two false steps. He would quote from the organ of the Government, the *Toronto Globe*, of February 13th, 1874, to show that a change had occurred:—

"No Government that could be found will carry on the work of construction more efficiently and speedily than will that of Mr. Mackenzie. It was the Reform Party that first advocated the annexation of the Northwest Territory, including British Columbia. It is among Reformers are found the most enthusiastic supporters of the Pacific Railway. And it is by a Reform Government that the work must be carried to final completion. It is not the people of British Columbia therefore that have cause to regret the advent of Reformers to power."

"He felt that this debate which he had the honour to open would give rise to many discussions, but he hoped it would not be to any more complications. He thought, by a little more forbearance in Parliament by Dominion statesmen, a better understanding would be arrived at, and there would be a more satisfactory solution of the difficulty; but while language like that used by the Premier, who told them that they only wanted money expended in their Province—while language of that kind is used in official documents and Minutes of Council, it was not reasonable to expect that British Columbia would bear meekly and with resignation treatment of that kind, together with broken faith and taunts. They had been told they had no right to representation in that House, that they represented nobody but Indians. They

were leeches, Pariahs, blood-suckers, the calf that was sucking the Ontario cow, etc. He did not charge the Government with using such language, but it was used by their press and by their supporters. All these things were not pleasing for them to hear; it was not the way to bring order out of the chaos into which the vicious policy of the Government had plunged them. He admitted that the position of the Government was an onerous one. They were new to office and new to ministerial responsibilities. He could quite understand that this strain on their mental powers was enormous, but he believed that a more large hearted, a more comprehensive, whole-souled policy towards British Columbia would be more politic. The late Government did certainly desire to show them a god feeling, but the present Government was constantly taunting them with costing \$1,200,000 since their admission to the Dominion more than they returned. Was that worthy of Ministers holding office and representing the people? He thought not, and if a better understanding was not arrived at, he, for one, proposed to raise his voice, cast his vote, and try to keep his people content, and if the Government did not do what was right they would do their best to put them out and get men in who would do them justice. Then, in the language of scripture, the Province which Mackenzie rejected would become the first Province of the Dominion. (Laughter.)

Hon. Mr. CORNWALL—In approaching this matter the hon. House must excuse me if I do so from a British Columbia point of view, and try to express my sense of the bad treatment which British Columbia has sustained with reference to the carrying out of the terms of union. I complain that she has been badly treated, not so much by Canada itself, or its people as a whole, but rather by the extraordinary behaviour of the present Government since it assumed power some two or three years since. I do not wish to conceal from myself the fact that in 1871, when the terms of union on which British Columbia was allowed to enter the Dominion were under discussion in the Houses of Parliament here, that several of the principal members of the Government now in power expressed themselves as strongly opposed to such parts of the terms as related to the Canadian Pacific Railway, and I can well understand how, on their accession to office, shortly after, they should have still look-

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