

which I am one of the representatives, I did not pay to the memory of Sir Mackenzie Bowell a tribute of gratitude from my co-religionists for the firm attitude manifested by him as the Canadian Prime Minister in the memorable crisis which almost engulfed his Government in the dark days of January, 1896.

I lived those thrilling days. I was a witness, in July, 1895, of the resounding resignations of Messrs. Angers, Caron and Ouimet, of the return of the last two to the ministry, and of the splendid isolation of Mr. Angers, who persisted in his determination to remain outside of a ministry which temporized instead of adopting for our brothers in Manitoba the measures of justice indicated to us by the Constitution legally interpreted by a judgment of the Privy Council. The attitude taken by the province of Quebec and the men who represented it prevented for six months the obtaining of a successor to Mr. Angers in the Federal Ministry. As a consequence, in January, 1896, Parliament met with a Ministry which was incomplete. The Speech from the Throne, the work of the Cabinet, promised remedial legislation; but before the Address in Reply was adopted by the House of Commons, a violent crisis broke out within the Cabinet, and Messrs. Foster, Haggart, Ives, Montague, Wood, Tupper (the younger), and Dickey ostentatiously walked out of it, giving as a pretext the manifest weakness of the Bowell Government in not being able, thanks to the province of Quebec, to obtain a successor to Mr. Angers in the Cabinet. This happened about the 4th or 5th of January, 1896.

Following the desertion of the seven members from his Administration, Sir Mackenzie Bowell tendered his resignation to the Governor General of the time, Lord Aberdeen.

On the 9th of January the Prime Minister announced to Parliament that the Governor General refused to accept his resignation.

What, then, had occurred between the 5th and the 9th of January? On the 8th, about noon, in the old room No. 25 of the Senate, where Mr. Angers was in conversation with Senators Bolduc and Landry and three members of the House of Commons, Messrs. Dupont, Joncas, and Arthur Turcotte, an aide-de-camp of Lord Aberdeen knocked at the door of the room and requested an interview with Mr. Angers. He had come on behalf of His Excellency to ask for the advice of a member of the Privy Council as to what course to pursue in face of the resignation of his Prime Minister. The ad-

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vice was given there and then, and the Governor refused to accept the resignation of Sir Mackenzie Bowell while the House of Commons had not voted its reply to the Speech from the Throne. The House adjourned to the 14th. Sir Mackenzie had time to reorganize his cabinet and he had the Address in Reply adopted by the House. The crisis was at an end, and the remedial legislation was submitted to the deliberations of the popular chamber.

Sir Mackenzie Bowell was then the leader of the Senate; he became the enthusiastic defender of the Catholic minority—he, the chief of the Orangemen—and, with an unflinching fidelity and a loyalty which had gained for him the sympathies of the persecuted minority, he fought to the end for the triumph of the cause which he had espoused.

In the name of the province of Quebec, in the name of the Manitoban minority, I owe and I render to him the testimony and the expression of our profound gratitude. He is no more, but the remembrance of his noble conduct remains imbedded in the memory of a whole people. Others have praised the statesman, with his extensive knowledge, the fruit of long experience. For my part, I mourn the loss of a sincere friend of upright character and lofty soul, and I can with confidence add my feeble voice to the unanimous chorus of praise which is raised in this Chamber in honour of the memory of a good man.

Hon. L. O. DAVID: I wish to add a few words to what has been so well said of Sir Mackenzie Bowell, whom I had the honour and the pleasure of knowing intimately. When I saw Sir Mackenzie Bowell for the first time, his middle-sized stature was strong, solid, and well proportioned. With his black beard and hair and his dark-coloured frock coat, his aspect was severe and imposing. If he had worn a military uniform in the days of Elizabeth, he would have been taken for a general of that time. He occupied then a high position in the front rank of the Conservative party, amongst the best fighters in that party, under the direction and command of the illustrious Sir John A. Macdonald. All his outward appearance showed signs of firmness and energy, of a resolute mind, of a tenacious will: he was a perfect type of the first-class Englishman, of the John Bull described by Max O'Rell. His demeanour was calm and quiet; his eyes were small, but expressive, and promptly brightened up under the influence of a lively sentiment or of a deep thought, and darted flashes which indicated a warm heart and a firm