

Sir W. Laurier wanted to court when he proposed his plan of Political Federation.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S OPINION ON THE IMPERIAL FEDERATION AS PROPOSED BY SIR W. LAURIER.

The resolution as proposed to the House of Commons, was as follows: "In the opinion of the House it is to be wished, in the interest of the Empire, that the Colonies be admitted to a representation in the Imperial Parliament."

On this subject Mr. Chamberlain speaks as follows:

"Until now, apart from opinions, expressed individually by Statesmen, or by Societies, no step has been taken, no proposition, or suggestion, made, or request presented by the authorities duly authorized, by the colonies to effect the change contained in the resolution. I do not necessarily conclude that such a change would be an advantage among the colonies."

"We can assume the colonies that we follow them as far as they care to advance towards Imperial unity. (Applause.) But in view of the extraordinary complexity of the situation I do not believe that the time has come to make any suggestion as to what form will take, before many years, the realization of the Imperial unity."

"I have come to the famous axiom: 'taxation without representation,' a question, which in my idea, invites us to discuss no longer and which the hon. member has merely touched upon. I do not approve of what the hon. member has said as to the contrary of the adage, not being true, and that there cannot be representation without taxation."

"Although the honorable member's question would not say so, I am convinced that the colonies will conclude from their proposition, that we wish to impose a tax on the colonies. (Hear, hear.)"

"This objection should not come from ourselves, but from the colonialists themselves, who would fear our intention of imposing a taxation in exchange of a representation in Parliament, which, for several years longer they would only constitute a minority. (Applause.) It would then be eminently dangerous, were it known abroad, irrespective of the party to which we belong—that we give the slightest sign of an approach to this proposition. (Applause.) I have tried to demonstrate what the reasons are, which lead me to believe the step taken by the honorable member to be premature, that it is necessarily academic, that SIR CHARLES TUPPER AND IMPERIAL FEDERATION."

it is disastrous. In the meantime what was Sir Charles Tupper doing while Sir W. Laurier was thus advocating Imperial Federation?"

He protested without losing a moment. In an interview with a Daily News reporter, on June 25th, 1897, he emphatically condemned this project, which Mr. Chamberlain declared once to be eminently dangerous.

"I have no faith in the idea fostered here by Sir W. Laurier, of the establishment of a great Imperial Parliament. It is a plan bound to be a failure. A few years ago, the Imperial Federation League which comprised such men as Lord Rosebery, the Marquis of Ripon, the Hon. Philippe Stanhope, the Right Hon. W. H. Smith and several others, studied the question from all its sides."

"With the exception of one member only, who unanimously decided that the idea of an Imperial Parliament was out of the question in practical politics, and Lord Rosebery was the echo of our deliberation at a meeting in the 'Mansion House.' There are two strong reasons against such an Imperial Parliament."

Firstly, such an assembly should be invested to impose taxation for Imperial purposes, and consequently representation should be based in a certain measure on population. This would mean that in a few years England's voice would be completely drowned by that of the more populous colonies. England shall never submit to this."

Secondly, the colonies would never consent to renounce their authority and put a great proportion of their power in the hands of an assembly distant three thousand miles or more."

Q. Should we then remain as we are? Ans. My view is that which was formulated by the Ottawa conference and this has been further endorsed by Mr. Chamberlain in his speech before the Board of Trade. Let there be preferential commercial treaty within the limits of the Empire by fostering trade with its colonies."

Such is the stand taken by Sir Charles Tupper, and from which he has never deviated.

Moreover, it is the stand he had taken long before, when the Imperial Federation League wanted to make in Canada a move to participate to the Territorial and maritime defence of the Empire.

Mr. Charles Tupper had refused to lend himself to that movement in spite of all the disagreements which might have caused him because of this hostile attitude. The proof is found in the following:

SIR CHARLES TUPPER IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY FOR OCTOBER, 1892, DECLARED THAT CANADA IS SUFFICIENTLY CONTRIBUTING TO THE DEFENCE OF THE EMPIRE AND NEEDS NOT TO DO ANY MORE.

"And now comes the next question, that of defence. No one can fail to see how advantageous it would be for England to appear before the world with the knowledge on the part of every foreign country, that she is not standing alone, but acting with the united influence and support of these great British Dominions which, at no distant day will have a population larger than that of Great Britain. The moral weight and the prestige thus given would be considerable, but the means of concerting united action for the defence between those outlying portions of the empire and the government of the day here would be the least effective and practical method by which they could aid and support each other."

"Many persons, I am aware, both in the colonies and here, have looked upon the question of the defence of the empire as best promoted and secured by a direct contribution to the support of the army and navy of this country. That I regard as a very mistaken opinion, and I believe that there is a much more effective means of promoting the object in view. In my opinion, no contribution to the army and navy of England, on the part of Canada would have contributed to the defence of the empire in a greater degree than the mode in which the public money in Canada has been expended for that purpose. We have expended, in addition to enormous grant of land, over a million pounds sterling, per annum, from the first hour that we became a united country, down to the present day, in constructing a great Imperial highway across Canada from ocean to ocean, not only furnishing the means for the expansion of trade and the development of Canada, but providing means of inter-communication at all seasons between the different parts of the country. Louis Riel and a mere handful of half-breeds were able to terrorize the whole of the Northwest of Canada, in 1870, for half a year, until the arrival of Lord Wolseley, who occupied three months in reaching that place after the spring opened. Lord Wolseley could now perform the same journey within two days. On the last occasion in which a rising occurred in 1885, but ninety miles of the Canadian Pacific Railway remained intact."

"In twenty-four hours, 4,000 men had volunteered from every part of Canada, to go at once to the Northwest, and the disturbance was quelled without calling upon this country for the slightest assistance."

"We have, therefore, not only provided the means of inter-communication, the means of carrying on our trade and business, but have also established a great Imperial Highway, which England might to-morrow find most essential for the maintenance of her power in the east. Not only has Canada furnished a highway across the continent, but it has brought Yokohama three weeks nearer to London than it is by the Suez Canal."

"I give that as an illustration that there are other means, which, in my judgment, may contribute much more to the increased strength and the greatness of the Empire, than any contribution that could be levied upon any of the colonies."

SIR CHARLES AT THE MEETING OF THE EMPIRE LEAGUE IN MARCH, 1898, DEFENDS THE STAND HE HAD TAKEN WHEN HE REFUSED TO ADMIT THAT CANADA SHOULD PARTICIPATE TO THE EXPENSE OF THE DEFENCE OF THE EMPIRE.

"Before resuming my seat," said Sir Charles, "I want to take up a few statements made by the President, addressed to this meeting. None is more disposed than I am to do anything to ensure the adoption of measures the nature of which would be to effect a unity of the constituent parts of the British Empire, but I believe it to be neither wise nor in the interest which we all have in view, to say, as you did to-day, that Canada has assumed a most humiliating attitude and contrary to its duty, by declaring that it is not in a position to accept the burden of its responsibilities and its obligations on this subject. I regret that you should have listened to Sir Michael Hicks-Beach's speech. The threat underlying this recent speech is not only a flagrant injustice to Canada, but its nature will not tend to foster the object which we have in view. The question has been discussed thoroughly before the English public. An insignificant part of the Imperial Federation League, headed by Sir John Lubbock, and a young man acting as Secretary, severed their connection with the association on this question. This was done on account of a proposition to the effect that colonies should consent to contribute in an important measure towards the maintaining of the Imperial navy, or else that they should retire from it. With other members of the association, I objected to this attitude, believing that it was unwise to adopt such a policy."

"The question having been once more raised, after Sir W. Laurier's statements demanding Canada's representation in the Imperial Parliament, Sir Charles Tupper re-enters the arena."

Sir Charles then shows that this policy was much discussed by Lord Rosebery and other British politicians who declared it to be absolutely impracticable. "This policy means the establishment of an Imperial Parliament sitting at St. Stephens, in the centre of the Empire, and a federation based on the population."

"Each citizen would then be in the same position as if he were in England. The power of the Canadian Government to govern itself would virtually disappear. We would still have our provincial legislation, but the questions taxation, customs, etc., would all be decided at St. Stephens."

"Being only one half of the combined populations of England and Canada, we would necessarily have to pay half the taxes."

"Under these regulations, for the maintenance of the army and the navy, we would have to pay this year about 46 millions, which is one-quarter of the total cost of the army and navy. Such is his policy of Sir W. Laurier."

"I believe it is quite unnecessary to lose any more time on this subject. 'Any man who has a head on his shoulders will at once see that this policy means the giving up of our liberties—and our affairs administered by a parliament sitting in London.'"

SIR CHARLES TUPPER IN MONTREAL, APRIL 14TH, 1897, REITERATES HIS CONDEMNATION OF THE POLITICAL FEDERATION OF THE EMPIRE.

(Speeches delivered before Conservative Clubs.)

Sir Wilfrid Laurier says that he wishes an imperial representation, a parliamentary federation of the Empire. But it is an impossible thing for the present; we are not yet prepared to adopt such a policy. The greatest English statesmen who have studied carefully this matter, have declared this policy to be impracticable for the present."

Imperial Federation means that Canada would be taxed and represented according to its population. Being only one-half of the combined population of England and Canada, we would accordingly have to pay half the taxes."

Under this regulation, for the maintenance of the army and the navy, we would have to pay this year about 46 millions, representing one-quarter of the total cost of the army and navy. Such is Sir Wilfrid Laurier's policy."

Now for anyone to realize the fatal consequences involved by the federation of the Empire, it is sufficient to read the following report of a meeting of the Empire League, held in Ottawa on March 15th, 1900.

(The report is taken from "La Presse," March 16th.)

WHERE DOES THE POLITICAL FEDERATION OF THE EMPIRE LEAD US?

The Imperial Federation League, or rather the British Empire League, as it now disguises itself, held its local meetings in the Parliament Buildings at Ottawa on March 15th, 1900. As might have been expected under the circumstances, there was a large crowd present, and great competition of loyalty."

The questions raised were not all new. Many were old and many were academic. However, so many events have taken place this year that the expression of the opinion of this association, so overflowing with patriotism, on the subject created for Canada by the present establishment by the sending off of the Transvaal contingent, might well have been expected. We must now admit that the precedent now exists, since the ministerial party, by its vote on the Bourassa motion, has cancelled from the Order in Council the protective clause inserted by Hon. Mr. Tarte, and thereby decreeing that there is no reserve to be made."

The President of the British Empire League declared the responsibilities to be incurred by Canada in the future as follows:

"The League hopes that the Government shall at once take measures to improve the military standing of the country, not only in respect to the number of available troops, but also in respect to the equipment, instruction, organization, in such a way that we could, in case of need, take our full share in the defence of the interests of the Empire."

"Then we shall have to defend not only the integrity of the Empire, but also the interests of the Empire."

How much ground covered in so little time! But it is not all.

"Canada should be provided with the best modern war material. We should establish a manufacture of war implements, afford to officers means to keep abreast and be familiar with the modern tactics, have enormous quantities of ammunition in store."

Well, what about money? But it is not all yet."

"Canada should provide for pensions for its wounded and orphans, and raise a worthy monument, in its capital, to the memory of those who have fallen in Africa." And the bill still increases.

Lastly—"It is essential that Canada should organize a naval reserve at once, to participate in the maintenance of England's supremacy, which is threatened by the necessary armaments of the nations which are its rivals."

This is the bill which Imperialism would have to foot."

It was formerly considered good form to smile when the auguries of Imperial Federation yearly presented the list of their "desiderata."

It was enough to smile, without taking the trouble to object, as it was then thought that the repetition of such plans would never happen. Well, that time has come. We are in the midst of it and we should get prepared accordingly."

What has just been said is the conclusion of Col Denison's report, which report has been approved by the representatives of the government present at the time."

The Hon. Mr. Mulock, representing the government at the meeting, seconded the adoption of the report, pronouncing at the same time that the time was past when Imperial Federation could only be regarded as an empty dream."

To-day it is an accomplished fact. Once more, don't you think it is going at too fast a pace?"

"Sir Wilfrid Laurier pretends that his policy is a parliamentary federation of the Empire."

DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE SENDING OFF OF THE CONTINGENTS AND THE BOURASSA MOTION.

1. Transvaal Resolution, 18th July, 1890.

2. Interview with Sir W. Laurier (Globe, October 3rd, 1899).

3. Chamberlain's message, declaring to be willing to accept an offer of a contingent. (October 3rd, 1899).

4. Order in Council (no precedent, 13th October).

5. Resolutions relative to expenses of contingent. Bourassa's amendment and vote.

6. Bourassa's motion on the war question.

7. Sir Wilfrid Laurier's speech.

8. Vote on Bourassa's motion.

9. Mgr. Bégin's letter to Mgr. Bruchesi.

10. Articles in L'Electeur in 1896, on rifle and gun question.

11. Speeches of M. M. Brodeur, Brunelle, Lévesque, and others, on the guns. (Session 1896).

THE TRANSVAAL RESOLUTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, HOUSE OF COMMONS, JULY 12th, 1890.

1. Resolved, That this House has viewed with regret the complications which have arisen in the Transvaal Republic, of which Her Majesty's Government is a party, and that Her Majesty's subjects now settled in that region any adequate participation in its government;

2. Resolved, That this House has learned with still greater regret that the condition of things there existing has resulted in intolerable oppression, and has produced great and dangerous excitement among several classes of Her Majesty's subjects in her South African possessions;

3. Resolved, That this House, representing a people which has largely succeeded, by the adoption of the principle of conceding political rights to every portion of the population, in harmonizing estrangements and in producing general content with the existing system of government, desires to express its sympathy with the efforts of Her Majesty's Imperial authorities to obtain for the subjects of Her Majesty who have taken up their abode in the Transvaal such measure of justice and political recognition as may be found necessary to secure them in the full possession of equal rights and liberties."

INTERVIEW OF LAURIER WITH A GLOBE REPORTER, OCT. 4, 1899.

"There exists a great deal of misconception in the country regarding the powers of the government in the present case," said Sir Wilfrid.

"As I understand the Militia Act, and I may say that I have given it some study of late, our volunteers are enrolled to be used in the defence of the Dominion. They are Canadian troops, to be used to fight in Canada's defence. Perhaps the most widespread misapprehension is that they cannot be sent out of Canada. To my mind it is clear that cases might arise when they might be sent to a foreign land to fight. To postulate that they cannot be sent out of Canada is to postulate that Spain has declared war upon Great Britain. Spain has, or had, a navy, and that navy might be being got ready to assail Canada as part of the Empire. Sometimes the best method of defending oneself is to attack and in that case Canadian soldiers might certainly be sent to Spain and it is quite certain that they legally might be so dispatched to the Iberian Peninsula. The case of the South African Republic is not analogous. There is no menace to Canada, and although we are willing to contribute troops, I do not see how we can do so. Then again, how could we do so without Parliament's granting us the money? We simply could not do anything. In other words, we should have to summon Parliament. The Government of Canada is restricted in its powers. It is responsible to Parliament, and it can do very little without the permission of Parliament. There is no doubt as to the attitude of the Government on all questions that mean menace to British interests, but in the present case our limitations are very closely defined. And so it is that we have not offered a Canadian contingent to the Home authorities. The Militia Department duly transmitted individual offers to the Imperial Government, and the reply from the War Office, as published in Saturday's Globe, shows their attitude on the question. As to Canada furnishing a contingent the government has not discussed the question for the reasons which I have stated—reasons which I think must easily be understood by everyone who understands the constitutional law on the question."

CHAMBERLAIN'S MESSAGE. THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES SAYS HE IS WILLING TO ACCEPT OFFERS OF A CONTINGENT.

The Secretary of State for the War Office and Commander in Chief desire that you express high appreciation of signal exhibition of patriotic spirit of people of Canada, shown by offers to serve in South Africa, and to furnish following information to assist organization of forces into units suitable for military requirements: Firstly, units should consist of about 125 men; secondly, men may be infantry, mounted infantry or cavalry. In view of numbers already available, infantry most, cavalry least, serviceable. Thirdly, all should be armed with decimal 303 rifles or carbines which can be supplied by Imperial Government if necessary. Fourthly, all must provide own equipment and mounted troops own horses. Fifthly, not more than one captain and three subalterns each unit. While force may be commanded by officer not higher than major. In considering numbers which can be supplied, Secretary of State for War guided by nature of offers, but desires that each colony should be fairly represented and limits necessary, if force is to be fully utilized by available staff as integral portion of Imperial forces. They would gladly accept units."

"Conditions as follows: Troops to be disembarked at port of landing, South Africa, fully equipped, at cost of Colonial Government or volunteers. From the date of disembarkation Imperial Government will provide pay, at Imperial rates, supplies and ammunition, and will defray expenses of transportation back to Canada and pay wound pensions and compassionate allowances at Imperial rates. Troops to embark not later than 31st October, proceeding direct to Cape town for orders. Inform accordingly all who have offered to raise volunteers."

ORDER IN COUNCIL OF OCT. 13TH, 1899, DECIDING THE SENDING OF THE FIRST CONTINGENT (WITHOUT PRECEDENT).

The Right Honorable Sir Wilfrid Laurier, to whom the said dispatch was referred, observes that the Colonial Secretary, in answer to the offers which have been sent to him from different parts of Canada, expressing the willingness and anxiety of Canadians to serve Her Majesty's Government in the war which for a long time has been threatening with the Transvaal Republic, and which, unfortunately, has actually commenced, enunciates the conditions under which such offers may be accepted by the Imperial authorities. These conditions may be practically summed up in the statement that a certain number of volunteers, by units of 125 men, with a few officers, will be accepted to serve in the British army, now operating in South Africa, the moment they reach the coast, provided the expenses of their equipment and transportation to South Africa shall be defrayed either by themselves or by the Colonial government."

The Prime Minister, in view of the well known desire of a great many Canadians who are ready to take service under such conditions, is of opinion that the moderate expenditure which would thus be involved for the equipment and transportation of such volunteers may readily be undertaken by the Government of Canada without summoning Parliament, especially as such an expenditure under such circumstances cannot be regarded as a departure from the well known principles of Constitutional Government and Colonial practice, non-construed as a precedent for future action."

RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, FEB. 24TH, 1890, RELATING TO THE EXPENSES OF THE CONTINGENTS.

1. That it is expedient to provide that from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada there shall and may be paid and applied a sum, not exceeding in the whole the sum of eight hundred and fifty thousand dollars, being the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars authorized under Order in Council, dated the fourth day of November, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine, and the sum of six hundred thousand dollars authorized by Order in Council, dated the fifth day of January, one thousand nine hundred, towards payment of the expenditure incurred, or to be incurred, in sending the contingents of Canadian volunteers to South Africa, or in connection therewith, and the members of the Queen's Privy Council of Canada, and the officers and persons who authorized or made the expenditure of any of the said sums under the Orders in Council above referred to, or under any warrant of His Excellency the Governor-General issued in consequence of or on the authority thereof, are hereby indemnified and exonerated from all liability by reason of having used or authorized the use of the above mentioned sums of money, or any portion thereof, without due legal authority, and all expenditure heretofore made of any of said sums shall be held to have been lawfully made."

2. In addition to the said sum of eight hundred and fifty thousand dollars referred to in the preceding resolution, there shall and may be paid and applied, from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada, a further sum not exceeding in the whole the sum of one million one hundred and fifty thousand dollars towards defraying any further expenditure that may be incurred in connection with the sending of Canadian volunteers for active service in South Africa; and for providing as hereafter mentioned for a fund by way of allowance to such volunteers or their dependents."

3. The word "expenditure" in the foregoing resolutions includes the following: (a) All expenses of every kind in connection with the raising, enrolling, arming, equipping, provisioning, dispatching and transportation of the said contingents up to the time of arrival at the place of debarkation in South Africa;

(b) The payment of the officers, non-commissioned officers and men composing the said contingents up to the time of debarkation as aforesaid at the rates authorized by the regulations and orders of the Department of Militia and Defence;

(c) All separation allowances paid to the wives and children of the married non-commissioned officers and men at the rates laid down by the Imperial regulations;

(d) The difference between the rates of pay of the officers, non-commissioned officers and men, which they receive or are entitled to receive from Her Majesty's Government during the period of service in South Africa and the respective rates of pay received by them up to the time of debarkation in South Africa—such difference not to be paid to such officers, non-commissioned officers and men, while on such service, but the amount which would be payable to each officer, non-commissioned officer or man, to be placed to his credit and to be applied in such manner as the Governor-in-Council may determine for the benefit of the dependents on him, or failing such application to be paid to him or his representatives at the close of his period of service."

On the first of March Mr. Bourassa proposed in the general committee that the last clause be struck out. This motion was rejected by a vote of 76 to 3.

THE BOURASSA MOTION MOVED ON MARCH 13TH, 1900. (Text.)

That this House insist on the principle of the sovereignty and the independence of parliament as the basis of British institutions and the safeguard of the civil and political liberties of British citizens, and as a consequence to resist the action of the government in relation to the South African war as a precedent which should commit this country to any action in the future."

That this House further declares that it opposes any change in the political and military relations which exist at present between Canada and Great Britain, unless such change is initiated by the sovereign will of parliament and sanctioned by the people of Canada."

SPEECH BY SIR W. LAURIER ON THE BOURASSA MOTION. SIR W. LAURIER SAYS THAT IT IS OF HIS OWN FREE WILL THAT HE HAS SENT THE CANADIANS TO THE TRANSVAAL. HE SAYS THAT ON OTHER OCCASIONS IF IT IS ASKED FOR HE WILL SEND AGAIN TROOPS. MARCH 13TH, 1900.

(Debates, Page 1830, etc.)

Sir, I understand much better now than I did before what is the reason which has impelled my hon. friend to take the position which he has taken. Mr. hon. friend is opposed to the war; he thinks it is unjust. I do not blame him for holding this view. We are a British country and a free country, and every man in it has the right to express his opinion. My hon. friend has the same right to believe that the war is unjust that Mr. John Morley, Mr. Courtney and many other Liberals in England have to hold the same belief."

But if my hon. friend is of the opinion that the war is unjust, for my part I am just as fully convinced in my heart and conscience that there never was a juster war on the part of Great Britain than that war. I am fully convinced that there never was a more unjust war on the part of any man than the war that is now being carried on by President Kruger and the people of the Transvaal. I have not the slightest hesitation in saying this."

If the relations between Great Britain and Canada are to be changed, they can only be changed by the will and with the consent of the people. I am not going to say that the will of the people should be ascertained by a plebiscite, for I believe the well known methods of the constitution are more appropriate."

But the argument of my hon. friend is, that by taking the position we did, we have changed the relations, civil and military, which now exist between Great Britain and Canada. I altogether repudiate that doctrine, and I cannot conceive upon what argument it can be based. I listened carefully to my hon. friend, and I admit him in many ways, but I did not understand the argument which he based his doctrine that by sending a military contingent to South Africa, we have changed the political relations existing between Great Britain and Canada. He went further. He asserted, and still more insinuated than asserted, that in doing what we did, we had been dictated to by Downing Street, that we had been compelled to act by the strong hand of Mr. Chamberlain. He rather insinuated also that in passing the resolution we passed last session, expressing our sympathy with the Uitlanders, we were rather coerced by the will of Mr. Chamberlain. He rather insinuated that the resolution which we then passed, had been framed by introduced by Mr. Chamberlain. Well, Sir, the fact is that nobody saw that resolution except the hon. leader of the opposition, who received it from me after it had been adopted by council."

No, sir, we were not forced by Mr. Chamberlain, or by Downing Street, and I cannot conceive what my honorable friend meant, when he said that the future of this government was not to be pledged by this government. When and where did we pledge the future of this country? We acted in the full independence of our sovereign power. What we did, we did of our own free will, but I am not to answer for the consequences or for what will take place in the future. My hon. friend says the consequence is that we will be called upon to take part in other wars. I have only this to answer my hon. friend: that if it should be the will of the people of Canada, at any future period to take part in any war of England, the people of Canada will have to have their way."

But I have no hesitation in saying to my hon. friend that it is as a consequence of our action to-day, the doctrine were to be admitted, that Canada should take part in all the wars of Great Britain and contribute to the military expenditure of the Empire I agree with him that we should revise the conditions of things existing between us and Great Britain. If we were to be compelled to take part in all the wars of Great Britain, I have no hesitation in saying that I agree with my hon. friend, that sharing the burden, we should also share the responsibility. Under that condition of things, which does not exist, we should have the right to say to Great Britain: If you want us to help you, call us to your councils; if you want us to take part in wars let us share not only the burdens but the responsibilities and duties as well. But there is no occasion to examine this contingency this day."

And, did we do anything wrong, after all, and cut my hon. friend out of our action when we simply put it in the power of these young men who wanted to go and give their lives in order to promote what was to them a sacred cause, to go to the front? Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that if ever there was an occasion when we should have no voice of dissent in this House, it is the present occasion. I greatly admired the speech of my hon. friend, though I am far from sharing his views. But I call upon him to remember that he belongs to a patriotic family, as he said to us to-day."

I called upon him to remember that the liberties which we enjoy are largely due to his own family. But if we have liberties on one side, would he not accept some duties on the other side? Would he not accept some obligations on the other side? Shall the sacrifice be all on one side and none on the other? The obligations all on one side and none on the other side."

We were not compelled to do what we did; but if we chose to be generous, to do a little more than we are bound to do, where is the man living who would find fault with us for that action?"

Here follows the record of the vote on the Bourassa resolution, Mr. Bégin's letter, written April 1900, by Mgr. Bruchesi, on the loyalty of the French-Canadians, and what pretends to be editorial articles from L'Electeur, a paper published in Quebec City in 1896, and distorted extracts from speeches of three of the members of the House of Commons from Quebec province during the Remedial Bill Session of 1890.

DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE SENDING OFF OF THE CONTINGENTS AND THE BOURASSA MOTION.

1. Transvaal Resolution, 18th July, 1890.

2. Interview with Sir W. Laurier (Globe, October 3rd, 1899).

3. Chamberlain's message, declaring to be willing to accept an offer of a contingent. (October 3rd, 1899).

4. Order in Council (no precedent, 13th October).

5. Resolutions relative to expenses of contingent. Bourassa's amendment and vote.

6. Bourassa's motion on the war question.

7. Sir Wilfrid Laurier's speech.

8. Vote on Bourassa's motion.

9. Mgr. Bégin's letter to Mgr. Bruchesi.

10. Articles in L'Electeur in 1896, on rifle and gun question.

11. Speeches of M. M. Brodeur, Brunelle, Lévesque, and others, on the guns. (Session 1896).

THE TRANSVAAL RESOLUTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, HOUSE OF COMMONS, JULY 12th, 1890.

1. Resolved, That this House has viewed with regret the complications which have arisen in the Transvaal Republic, of which Her Majesty's Government is a party, and that Her Majesty's subjects now settled in that region any adequate participation in its government;

2. Resolved, That this House has learned with still greater regret that the condition of things there existing has resulted in intolerable oppression, and has produced great and dangerous excitement among several classes of Her Majesty's subjects in her South African possessions;

3. Resolved, That this House, representing a people which has largely succeeded, by the adoption of the principle of conceding political rights to every portion of the population, in harmonizing estrangements and in producing general content with the existing system of government, desires to express its sympathy with the efforts of Her Majesty's Imperial authorities to obtain for the subjects of Her Majesty who have taken up their abode in the Transvaal such measure of justice and political recognition as may be found necessary to secure them in the full possession of equal rights and liberties."

INTERVIEW OF LAURIER WITH A GLOBE REPORTER, OCT. 4, 1899.

"There exists a great deal of misconception in the country regarding the powers of the government in the present case," said Sir Wilfrid.

"As I understand the Militia Act, and I may say that I have given it some study of late, our volunteers are enrolled to be used in the defence of the Dominion. They are Canadian troops, to be used to fight in Canada's defence. Perhaps the most widespread misapprehension is that they cannot be sent out of Canada. To my mind it is clear that cases might arise when they might be sent to a foreign land to fight. To postulate that they cannot be sent out of Canada is to postulate that Spain has declared war upon Great Britain. Spain has, or had, a navy, and that navy might be being got ready to assail Canada as part of the Empire. Sometimes the best method of defending oneself is to attack and in that case Canadian soldiers might certainly be sent to Spain and it is quite certain that they legally might be so dispatched to the Iberian Peninsula. The case of the South African Republic is not analogous. There is no menace to Canada, and although we are willing to contribute troops, I do not see how we can do so. Then again, how could we do so without Parliament's granting us the money? We simply could not do anything