

one-twentieth of all the land, together with large special reserves around their posts, few reflected that the money paid the Hudson Bay Company, was really thrown away, and that we must yet buy from those who owned and possessed them, the very lands that we were so graciously giving this Company, the one-twentieth of

Still for better or for worse, the deed is done, the bargain concluded, the money paid, and the responsibilities incurred, and Canada appreciating the future which awaits her, has grappled with the question of filling these newly acquired valleys, with the teeming population of the old world; we have projected Railways over them, and Canals through them; we have taken steps to make the rocks yield their rich and varied contents, and the rivers their golden sands. Discussion after discussion, has taken place in this House, from apparently every possible point of view in regard to the development of this region, but I totally fail to remember one single word, that would indicate the slightest consideration for those who are now happy and content on its hunting grounds, and to whom the carrying out of these projects means, unless a wise legislation interferes, gradual but inevitable destruction. Population and Railway communication we must have, but let us never forget that the cuttings of the Railroad, will desecrate many an Indian burying ground, and that the plough of the settlers along its line, will pass through many an Indian hearth, that is bright with fire to day.

At this moment there is a condition of profound peace among the Indian tribes north of the international boundary. In any part of this vast region the life of a white man is safe; no lodge would refuse him its shelter, and its food would be shared without the expectation of reward. They are absolute lords as yet of their hunting grounds; the half-breeds, it is true, are allowed to participate as a right in common with themselves, but parties of Englishmen and others, hunting for pleasure, are compelled to pay a royalty for the privilege, to those masters of the soil. I mention the fact, Sir, of the state of peace which exists among the British Indians because of its contrast to the state of affairs in the Indian country of the United States. There, the most ordinary surveying party has to be protected by a strong detachment of troops, and a condition of things exist which would seem to show that all faith between the contracting parties to treaties has passed away, and that the cruel strife will only end when the last Indian has uttered his death cry.

Honorable gentlemen will admit that the contrast is great, and

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