

the prominent representative of the British or Anglo-Saxon interests in the Parliaments of Lower Canada. Time has dealt gently with him, and in his port and mien are all the constitutional evidences of a conscience which is no accuser, of a mind serene and undisturbed in the midst of difficulties. Few men are there who have occupied a more prominent position in the public eye of this province of Canada, few who have been more unjustly dealt with, few who have received so little credit for the good they have accomplished.

I trust that the historian of the future will, at least, do more justice to Colonel Guty than has the journalist of the present. Less he cannot do. I speak not of the past, when for years at the sacrifice of promotion—at the sacrifice of personal interest and of personal ambition,—he stood forth in Lower Canada as the champion of a minority, and battled with a powerful majority; and this with an energy, an ability, and capacity seldom equalled in our Colonial Legislature; I prefer to speak of events much more fresh in your memory and mine. I speak of events of which I am better fitted to be the faithful recorder, from the fact that of them I was no indifferent eye witness, and to a certain extent no uninterested sharer.

There is a dark spot in the page of Canadian history; the angry passions of men were aroused by an act* which was by them deemed to extend, not only the sanction of the law to treason, rebellion and murder, but worse still—to reward them. The spirit of those who had lived obedient to law all their lives rose in passionate revolt against an enactment to their minds subversive of every principle of religion, morality and law. The flames of the House in which the statute was passed, with all the most valuable records of the country, fearfully attested the state of men's minds. It was at such a moment, when energy and determination were most required, that the energies of those whose duty it was to quell the storm seemed thoroughly paralyzed. There was one man, at least, who proved an exception to the prevailing cowardice. That man was Colonel Guty. Dark as is the memory of those days, they would have been darker still, but for him.

* The Royal Assent given by Lord Elgin to the Act for making compensation to *all* persons who had suffered loss during the two Rebellions.