

and one of the most gifted of French Canadians (Mr. Laurier), a gentleman who was an honor to Canada, when he came to the city of Toronto was referred to by a certain portion of the press as a rebel, because he held certain views on the subject of the Northwest rebellion. The most violent and incendiary articles were written on that subject, and it was even suggested that his life should be attempted. Rebels; yet at the time of the Fenian rebellion a French Canadian battalion was first to the fore, and in the Northwest rebellion the French troops shared in all the hardships and dangers of the campaign. (Cheers.) The other element which had been attacked had been the Irish Canadians, and between them and the French Canadians there had been the most cordial relations. In 1845, when a large number of Irish immigrants lay sick and dying in their ship at Grosse Isle, it was the Archbishop of Quebec who made an eloquent appeal on their behalf, and that appeal was generously responded to. The Irish Canadians were united with their French brethren by many ties. He sympathised with them in the great constitutional struggle which they were carrying on in England, and in which they had found so distinguished a champion as the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone. (Cheers.) The Irish people were agitating quietly and steadily, and the day would come when England would extend to them that privilege which she extended to the smallest of her colonies. In the history of the world there was no instance of so great a struggle being carried on with acts of violence so few and so promptly condemned by the leaders in the peaceful agitation. Concluding his speech Mr. Evanturel said that it would be one of his efforts to try and heal the breach which a certain portion of the press had done its best to create between two great elements of the Canadian people. He hoped that these cries would now be dropped, and that they would all work together to build up on this continent a mighty nation under the flag of England. (Cheers.)

Mr. MEREDITH, who rose amid applause, congratulated the House upon the addition to its debating talent shown by the speeches which had just been made. He was sorry that the member for Prescott, while complaining that his nationality had been attacked by certain journals, and while asserting that those attacks had driven him out of the Conservative ranks, had not borne in mind the fact that attacks such as he had repudiated had been made, not by irresponsible friends, but by men high in the counsels of the Liberal party, and that the Conservative members of the Local Legislature had on many occasions defended them from such attacks. (Cheers.) The hon. gentleman had talked of the blending of races, English, French, Irish and Scotch in this country. Unless they could get out of their minds the idle idea of English, French, German, Irish and Scotch, and get into their minds the idea of making one great Canadian people, they would never fulfil the destinies which in the providence of God belonged to them. The attempt to create a nation within a nation must be repudiated by all who desire to see the accomplishment of that great end. (Cheers.) I shall not follow the hon. gentleman in all he said. There will be another opportunity for discussing these matters and he (Mr. Meredith) would not be ashamed to take the position he took before the people in the contest which ended on the 28th December. Hon. gentlemen opposite had taunted the Opposition with being in a decided minority. The Government was not in a majority because of its policy or because of the victories which had been claimed for the "great constitutional

lawyer," the Attorney-General, but because a Church had chosen to fulminate against the Conservative party. (Opposition cheers.) It was also, in part, because appeals were made to sections—notably to the French Canadians—because justice—and the Attorney-General could not say otherwise—was meted out against one who had offended against the laws of the country. He repudiated, for the Conservative party,

ANY DESIRE TO RAISE SECTIONAL or religious cries. The whole record of the Conservative party was against such a course.

Hon. Mr. FRASER—Very much against it. (Laughter.)

Mr. MEREDITH said he did not deviate from the line he had taken in the campaign. These matters were rather beyond the scope of the present discussion, however. He expressed hearty concurrence with what had been said about the retiring Lieutenant-Governor, and referred to the acceptable manner in which the hostess of Government House had dispensed its hospitalities. He joined with former speakers in eulogy of the gentleman who it was said would succeed the present Lieutenant-Governor. He cordially endorsed what had been said respecting the Queen's Jubilee, and the more formal action in recognition of it which should be taken. Referring to the Boundary question, he said he was not there to dispute that the Attorney-General had fought for the interests of the Province or to detract from what he had done. But he desired to call attention to the fact that while the Provincial Government had been sustained by a greater majority than ever before, it was to be borne in mind that in the same Province the veteran leader of the Conservative Party for the Dominion without any adventitious aid, but upon his broad policy—(derisive laughter)—had also been sustained. The statement in the Speech from the Throne was

HARDLY THE WHOLE TRUTH.

It was true that while there had been no formal and technical acknowledgment by statute of the boundaries there had been a practical acknowledgment of the supremacy of the Provincial authority in the territory. He agreed that the duty was cast upon the Dominion Government of seeing that proper ratification by Imperial legislation should be given that the technical rights of the Province may be secured and the question settled forever. (Cheers.) Whatever credit might be due to the Attorney-General for fighting the battles of the Province, as claimed, he was to blame for having needlessly caused irritation in these matters, which should be discussed calmly and dispassionately. The Attorney-General was claiming credit for having put the Factory Act in operation. But it was evident in this case that the hon. gentleman had desired to make capital out of the Provincial rights cry. When the licensing power was called in question the hon. gentleman at once asserted the right of the Province.

Hon. Mr. FRASER—The Provincial laws were already in force.

Mr. MEREDITH—But in the case of the Factory Act the Government was between two fires—the manufacturers on one side and the labor organisations on the other. The Attorney-General sought to get the Dominion Government to question the validity of the Act, and it was only when the Minister of Justice asked him to state what was the reason he doubted the constitutionality of the Act that he decided to issue the proclamation. The Act was in his (Mr. Meredith's) opinion

QUITE WITHIN THE POWER OF THIS HOUSE to pass, but it was hoped by this