

inevitable, and entered the Cabinet of Sir John Macdonald. Riel was speedily suppressed and compelled to flee the country. The Fenian attacks proved abortive, and the Treaty of Washington of 1871 restored harmony between Canada and the United States. In the same year, British Columbia cast in its lot with the Dominion, followed in 1873 by Prince Edward Island. Only Newfoundland stood, and still stands, aloof.

The experiment of fifty years ago has proved an undoubted success. A number of sparsely settled provinces, with scarcely any knowledge of or communication with each other, divided by petty jealousies, hostile tariffs, different currencies, dissimilar postal systems, and the like, has become one vast community, stretching from sea to sea, united by a common purpose, and destined, in all human probability, to attain to unexampled heights of prosperity and greatness. For Canada is only at the beginning of her career, but yet in the morning of youth. No man can foresee the greatness in store for this Dominion, or set bounds to its future. Prosperity and progress will, no doubt, bring with them new responsibilities to be faced, new problems to be solved, new difficulties to be overcome. The great war for the freedom and liberties of the world, in which Canada is taking so glorious a part, will doubtless effect many things with us. Experience gained by association in a common cause, by participation in common suffering, and, let us add, by sharing in a common triumph, cannot but conduce to increased breadth of view, to a wider knowledge of the outside world and especially to more extensive and intimate relations with the sister Dominions within our own Empire. We do not doubt that the future destinies of this country will continue to be safely guided by the wise counsels of its public men; but while recognizing the ability and patriotism of succeeding statesmen, let us ever continue to hold in honour and remembrance the "Fathers of Confederation," who, amid difficulties and discouragements innumerable, by the exercise of courage, patience, constancy and perseverance, achieved results which we to-day only in part realize, and of which future generations will reap the full fruition.