

ed and have been demonstrated by that party? This is the party that provided, against the opposition of many hon. gentlemen now sitting on the other side of the House, and in whose steps they now follow, the main arteries of the commerce of this country, the arteries through which throb and pulsates that great commerce, that flow of trade and prosperity, for which hon. gentlemen opposite are not slow to take full credit at this time; that provided and extended the canal system that forms another artery, outlet, or channel, for the trade of this country, and that provided, in the early days, in the early twilight of that great prosperity which we are now enjoying, the basis, the foundation stones of a greater country and larger institutions built upon no narrow corner stones, cramped by no coercion laws saddled by no restrictive constitution, but laying the broad foundation stones, building fairly and wisely, so that when hon. gentlemen opposite come to power by reason of the profession of principles which they now abjure, and now deride and scorn, and upon the confidence which the people reposed in them as a result of the profession of those principles, they take full advantage of the stability of the institutions and the foundation stones laid by the Conservative party in this Dominion, and the prosperity and progress which has flowed from it, and claim it as their own, and are not modest in claiming it as their own. It is a spectacle that this country has to behold to-day, contrasted with the position which hon. gentlemen opposite, many of them now ministers of the Crown, took as lieutenants of the right hon. the premier, when he was leader of the opposition in 1896. On the question which was then before the House the right hon. gentleman took one position, and they supported him. He cried white in 1896, and they supported him; they said it was good. In 1905 when he cries black, they say, it is better, it is right, it is justice to the minority. It might be said outside of this House that it is ever with them, in the policy enunciated by their leader, the voice of a god, and that never since the days of Herod has there been such slavish adulation or such clinging to party or such serving of the exigencies of party which they desire to hold together at all costs. He says, thumbs up, and up they go; he says, thumbs down, and down they come. And these hon. gentlemen, some of them having the responsibility of ministers of the Crown, some of them who were looked upon as the champions of provincial rights, as the undoubted disciples of true provincial freedom, especially in matters of education, come under the yoke, and submissively swallow the professions they made in years gone by, when it suited their lust for power to make those professions in order to obtain the confidence of the people of this country. Well, hon. gentlemen have succeeded to the extent of gaining power by the profession of those

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principles. Hon. gentlemen, with a large majority behind them, a majority larger now than they ever had, are taking advantage of the moment to enact laws which will create a state of unrest and enable them to do that which they deprecated and scorned in 1896. Hon. gentlemen will as a party take the full responsibility for what they are doing. If they persist in betraying the people's rights, if they can make one promise and obtain power on that promise, and then desecrate and violate it, there is only one question that remains, and that is, whether there is a right of appeal. This is the first session of a new parliament, and early in the session the Bill was introduced. The Bill is one that has been talked of for two years. It was kept in the shade by hon. gentlemen opposite until they had obtained a large and substantial majority in this House. The moment that majority is obtained, it is used for the purpose of passing through a measure to brand by coercive methods these Northwest provinces with a system of education which they do not desire, and which the majority would not have voted for if they had ever had an opportunity of voting on this question. Then the question arises, is there an appeal? Sir, this is the first session of a new parliament. Hon. gentlemen opposite congratulate themselves that in six months' time all this magnificent flurry which they have raised will pass as a cloud of dust before a June rain. Hon. gentlemen are congratulating themselves in vain. Let me remind these hon. gentlemen that there are men in this country who think more of the eternal principles of justice than to let these events pass as a day-dream. The people of this country will remember, not only for six months, not only over one session, but over several sessions, and when the time comes, be it early or long deferred, when hon. gentlemen have to submit themselves to their respective constituencies in the changed garb which they have now adopted, and the people have an opportunity through the ballot of passing judgment upon them, that judgment will, I fancy, emphasize to these hon. gentlemen that the people have not forgotten and do not forget this interference with their sacred rights as easily and as soon as the hon. gentlemen would like them to forget. Sir, it is a dangerous thing to trifle with public rights; it is a dangerous thing to interfere with the principles and privileges that belong to a free people, and it is, in this particular case, an act for which the people will mete out justice when they have the opportunity with regard to the changed position of the hon. gentlemen opposite. Sir, I shall cast my vote for the amendment proposed by the hon. leader of the opposition. I shall cast my vote in that way, because I think the amendment contains those principles which will make for the pacification of this country, which will make for the removal of