

the territory of Athabaska with its small white population the nucleus of a territory controlling and administering Mackenzie, which, I presume, has no white population at all. You would then have a territory to the north of the 55th parallel very like the territory we constituted under the Act of 1875, and below the 55th parallel one province comprising something under 300,000 miles in area, very like the present province of Ontario and the present province of Quebec, somewhat midway between the two as to area, and I think you would have a compact and more homogeneous province, more likely to work together in the general interest of all concerned. I say this without knowing what may be the opinions of representatives of that district. I have listened to the arguments on both sides of this House and if I were asked, in so far as this debate has gone, to pronounce an opinion at this moment as to what would be the best or as to what would be the most fitting division of this territory in the interest of all concerned, I certainly would suggest such a plan as I have stated. In support of it all the arguments that have been addressed to the question of saving expense by having one province instead of two, and as to control of immigration, would apply. We would have only one province, we would have the Dominion administering the public lands of Athabaska, and if there are any lands to administer north of that, those lands as well and we would leave to the new province the control of the public lands in the three districts I have mentioned. It seems to me that it would be a sensible, business like solution of the difficulty and without presuming to offer an opinion for anybody but myself I submit it for the consideration of hon. gentlemen.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. On this question of the naming of the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan I wish to read a letter which I received from a friend of mine, and which is as follows:

When I lived in Georgia, I was very much impressed with the way the people there made use of the title 'Georgian.' 'I am a Georgian,' 'He is a noted Georgian,' are common expressions used in Georgia. We also hear the expression 'Washington was a Virginian,' 'He is a hot-headed Kentuckian,' 'He is a rich New Yorker,' 'He is a Californian,' 'He is a Delawarean,' 'He is a Nova Scotian,' &c.

It seems to me that it would be a very great advantage to the people of every state if the name of the state were such as could be used as indicated above. When a man says 'I am a New Yorker, what are you?' a man from Ontario feels at a loss what to say in reply. The best he can say is 'I am from Ontario.' But when a man from Virginia says 'I am a Virginian, what are you?' it is easy for a man from Nova Scotia to say 'I am a Nova Scotian.'

It is, therefore, my idea that in naming a new province care should be taken to give it a name that can be used as indicated above. Such a name gives the people of the province a distinction that they cannot otherwise obtain. To

say a man is a Canadian does not give the hearer much of an idea where the person came from, but to say that he is a 'Nova Scotian' at once calls special attention to the part of Canada from which the person comes.

'Alberta' is a pretty name, but is a little effeminate. 'He is an Albertan' does not sound so well as the quotations given above, such as 'He is a New Yorker, Georgian, Nova Scotian,' &c. But what is to be said of a man from 'Saskatchewan?' We have the Saskatchewan river, and a small town called Saskatchewan. Why use it as the name of the new province, when a much better name could be used?

The best name is one with either one or two syllables. 'Erie Canal' is better than Empire State Canal. 'Panama Canal' is better than a longer name, and Quebec is easier used than Hochelaga. As we are now about to set apart two new provinces, why not give them short and distinctive names, and future generations will call us 'blessed.'

Take Pennsylvania for instance. It is a good name, is distinctive, but it is too long. What is the result? The name is cut down, in conversation, to 'Pennsy.' The common name here for the Pennsylvania Railroad is 'The Pennsy.' The Philadelphia baseball team is called 'The Phillies.' If the new province is called 'Saskatchewan,' I suppose the word will be cut down after a while to 'Sasky,' and we shall hear of people who live 'up in Sasky.' Not much dignity about that, is there?

It surely is possible to find names for the new provinces that can be used similarly to the derivatives of Georgia, New York, Nova Scotia, Virginian, &c. In case this is not convenient or possible, the new provinces should at least be given short names. Parents are particular about the names given their children, and I believe you will agree with me that there is 'something in a name.' Parliament should exercise good taste and judgment in naming new provinces. Future generations, as well as ourselves, should be considered.

Take, for instance, the subject of correspondence. How easy it is to write, in the address, N.Y., N.S., Va., B.C., &c. But how about the names now applied to the new provinces? 'Alb.' would not be easily written with a pen, because of the loops in 'l' and 'b.' But what are we to say about 'Saskatchewan?' Shall we make the contraction 'Sask.'? If we do, then we have the name, 'Saskey,' and that would not be dignified. Referring to Alberta, I imagine we might hear some one say 'I live in Bertie.'

Saskatchewan should certainly be dropped, for there is not one man in twenty that can spell it correctly, probably not one in a hundred. We owe it to ourselves, and to future generations to give the province a better name.

I would like to see names used that have the adaptability of such names as Nova Scotia, Virginia.

The gentleman writes in another letter:

Since writing you, I am thoroughly convinced that 'Cartier' should be used as the name of one of the new provinces in the Northwest. I quote T. D'Arcy Magee's poem, first verse:

In the seaport of St. Malo, 'twas a smiling morn in May,

When the Commodore Jacques Cartier to the westward sailed away;

In the crowded old cathedral all the town were on their knees