R. S. Porter.

SPRING, 1877. SPRING, 1877

R. S. PORTER'S

CHOICE & CHEAP TITLE

WALL PAPER,

First and best in the Market

The contents of 8 BALES (400 ROLLS) now ready for inspection at lowest prices. Some Paper hangings are imported direct from the best manufacturing establishments in the United States. Great care has been taken in their selection, and they are now submitted to the public with the fullest confidence that we shall be able to show the most tasteful goods.

Plain Paper for Printed Window Shades from 12½c.

R. S. PORTER.

A. J. Melville.

CHEAP STOVES and TINWARE.

The undersigned is now selling his Stock of

STOVES and TINWARE

AT

Greatly Reduced Prices!

And intends giving up that branch of his business. His Stock of

Heavy & Shelf Hardware

Will now be more complete than ever. He would call the attention of carriage makers to his stock of

Iron, Horse Nails, Springs, Axles, Chamois Skins, Rims, Spokes, Hubs, Wheels, Carriage Hardware and Trimmings, and all other goods required by them, as he is determined not to be undersold.

GEO. H. GRIFFIN.

Sign of the Golden Anvil, Kent st., Lindsay.

Lindsay, Feb 13, 1877.

Banking and Exchange.

EXCHANGE OFFICE, Dominion Telegraph office, Fire and Life and Accident Insurance effected. Mortgages, Notes, Gross Stock and other bought and sold; money to loan on Mortgages or other security. Broker's cash. Also, what stock, three doors east of Merchants' Bank, Lindsay. A. McALPINE.

ONTARIO BANK.

SAVINGS BANK

A Savings Bank has been opened at the Lindsay Branch of the Ontario Bank. 5 per cent. interest allowed on deposits of $1 and upwards from date of deposit. No notice required of withdrawal of deposit.

S. A. McMURTRY, Manager.

BANK NOTICE.

MERCHANTS' BANK OF CANADA

CAPITAL, $6,000,000.

A SAVINGS BANK

Has been opened at the Agency of this Bank, Kent Street, Lindsay, for the smallest amounts, may be deposited, and care interest at the rate of five per cent. No notice whatever required previous to the withdrawal of Savings Bank deposits.

D. MILLER, Agent.

Lindsay, 17th June, 1875. 83-tf.

Canadian Post.

LINDSAY, FRIDAY, MAR. 30, 1877

MR. McQUADE'S MAIDEN SPEECH

No longer can South Victoria rest under the imputation if it be one of having a silent representative at Ottawa. Mr. McQuade has at last been heard from, and if brevity be the soul of wit neither Mr. Gillmour nor Sir John A. Macdonald can compare with our M. P. He "shines them down" emphatically in this their specialty. It is to some extent to Mr. McQuade's credit that he has not joined in the display of froth and fury made by the Opposition this session, and yet we think that when Dr. Orton was vigorously pounding away as the special guardian of the agricultural interests Mr. McQuade might have had something to say on behalf of the farmer, more especially as he was the farmer's candidate. Instead of that there has been nothing from him out a "twigh" (as from one of his own coal sloes) when Sir John neighed; or he has said "yea" when Sir John said "yea." He has not even essayed to help Dr. Orton by again declaring that the farmers of South Victoria fed oats to their hogs, and should therefore have "protection" as he once stated before an agricultural committee of the House. But at last the long spell of silence has been broken, and we hasten to emphasize the silvery sentences Mr. Powell on Monday last moved for returns setting forth the amount of Government deposits enjoyed by the Ontario Bank, and Sir John and the Hon T. N. Gibbs told what a corrupt bargain had been made with Mr. Simpson, the President of the bank. In fact according to this "bargain" Mr. Simpson was to get heavy Government deposits without interest, and was in return to carry for the Government six constituencies North and South Victoria, North and South Ontario, and the two Durhams, which he is popularly supposed to carry in his pocket or hold in his bank vaults. Then arose one member who copy from the *Mail's* report and delivers himself in this wise:

MR. MCQUADE—I AM GLAD THE HON. MEMBER FOR SIMPSON SPOKE AND I AM NAMED IN PLACE HAS DISTRIBUTED MONEY ALL OVER THE COUNTRY WHEN HE WAS IN OFFICE.

Mr. McQuade's coal has run away with his discretion altogether. We can give the most emphatic denial to the statement that either of the gentlemen named distributed money all over "the country" when Mr. McQuade was running, or that they distributed any money whatsoever, or that they did anything of a corrupt character, and we defy Mr. McQuade to prove his charge or stand convicted of either wickedly or ignorantly slandering two respectable men. Mr. McQuade has been told what to say on this occasion, and has had to back up what Mr. Cartwright properly called an "unmitigated falsehood" by a slander equally baseless, and one which we believe he will regret having formulated when he thinks a little more about it. The Opposition hope to diminish the disastrous effect of the Northern Railway and Secret Service fund revelations by raising all sorts of slanders. As Mr. Palmer intimated the other day with characteristic elegance, they are going into the "dirt-throwing" business with no little vigor, and Mr. McQuade has played his little part by endeavoring to convey the impression that he was opposed by extensive and reckless corruption. Mr. McQuade will not venture to repeat that slander on any hustings in South Victoria, before those whom he has accused. As it is bearing in mind the peculiar agency that elected him he must expect that not the strongest and most effective station in his stables will carry him ahead a second time in the electoral race.

THE TARIFF DEBATE.

The debate on the tariff resolutions of the Government, which began in the House of Commons on the 2nd of March, came to a conclusion on the night of the 23rd or rather the morning of the 24th. The time occupied more or less with it was three nearly three weeks. Fortunately for the public business the Government did not choose to treat Sir John A. Macdonald's amendment as an ordinary motion of want of confidence, though from its form as well as the manner in which it was brought before the House they would have been justified in doing so. They preferred, however, to let it take its chance with other Government orders on Government days, so that during these three weeks a great deal of useful legislation both public and private has been accomplished. In order to understand precisely the nature and effect of the various divisions which have been taken on the general question of a protective as distinguished from a revenue tariff it is necessary to bear in mind what the Government policy really is and what amendments to it have been proposed from either side of the House. In order to compensate the revenue to some extent from the general falling off in customs duties, the result of the prevailing hard times, and for the loss of both excise and customs duties on coal oil, Mr. Cartwright proposes to put an extra tax on tea in the shape of a small addition to the specific duty already imposed, and to add to the excise duty on beer by taxing malt. The tariff debate began on the motion of the Finance Minister that the House should concur in the resolution to impose an excise duty of two cents a pound on malt and eight cents a gallon on any fermented liquor made in imitation of beer and brewed wholly or partially from any other substance than malt. To this Sir John moved the following amendment:

"That this House regrets that the financial policy submitted by the Government increases the burden of taxation of the people without affording any compensation or advantage to Canadian industries, and further that this House is of opinion that the deficiency in the revenue should be met by diminution of expenditure, aided by such a readjustment of the tariff as would develope and foster the agricultural, the mining, and the manufacturing interests of the Dominion."

We have already pointed out that this motion does not necessarily bind the mover or any one who votes for it to a protection policy at all, and that if it did it does not go far enough. If it has any force and is anything else than a piece of transparent humbug it ought to have been made to cover that most depressed of all industries, the lumber interest, which protection to manufactures and agriculture would tend still further to depress. It ought also to be found to cover the shipping interest of the maritime provinces, which is unusually depressed, and which the adoption of a coal duty would tend to depress still more. For the rest it need only be said that the Government policy is to reduce the expenditure as much as possible, and, as every one knows, even Sir John himself could not curtail it beyond certain limits without stopping all our public works and impairing the efficiency of our civil service. Coming from the man who more than all others is responsible for the present high expenditure a proposition like this is certainly refreshingly cool. And as the House of Commons evidently thought it, as will presently appear. To have allowed Sir John to get off with a buncombe motion of his own would have been poor tactics on the part of the honest Protectionists of whom there are many on both sides of the House. Accordingly Mr. Wood, a supporter of the Government, compelled him and his followers to face the issue squarely by moving the following resolution:

That inasmuch as it has been deemed necessary to raise an additional revenue, it is the opinion of this House that the interests of the country would be better served by imposing additional duties upon such articles as may be produced in Canada, thereby affording increased protection while securing the additional revenue required."

As the result showed this motion was far better calculated to bring out the full protectionist vote than Sir John A. Macdonald's was, and on it the bulk of the speaking took place. Very able speeches were made on the side of the Government by Messrs. Charlton, Mills, Laurier, Bertram and others, while most of the speaking on the other side showed that the speakers were only half-hearted in their utterances, having evidently the fear of the next general election before their eyes. It is worthy of note that Mr Charlton and Mr. John Macdonald, of Centre Toronto, both spoke and voted against Mr. Wood's amendment this year though they both favored a similar motion made by Mr. Workman last year. Still more worthy of note is the admission of Mr. Workman himself. While declaring that he was a Protectionist and as such would vote for Mr. Wood's amendment, he frankly admitted that the tendency of public opinion was against them, and that the feeling in favor of protection to manufactures was waning instead of increasing. In this position he was unquestionably correct, and correct also in the cause he assigned to it. He attributed the change in public feeling to the check administered by the rise of prices in the United States to the practice of slaughtering goods from that country in the Canadian market, a result clearly traceable to the approach of better times. With returning prosperity we will soon hear the last of protection as a party cry, though the few visionaries who really believe in it as an economical creed will doubtless continue to ride their hobby as before. Mr. Wood's motion was defeated by a majority of 31, but had the members been all present the majority would have been at least 40. The Opposition having persistently refused this session to grant pairs except when it suits them Ministerial supporters who are ill or otherwise unavoidably absent cannot count for anything on a division.

As soon as Mr. Wood's motion was voted down Dr. Orton moved an amendment demanding protection to agriculture, and the debate recommenced as vigorously as ever, the conclusion having been reached only at an early hour on Saturday morning last. Dr. Orton's was the first motion voted on and it was defeated by a majority of 39. Then came the great test vote of the session, that namely on Sir John's "omnibus" protection resolution, which was defeated by a majority of 49. Four Ministerial supporters, Messrs. Rymal, Skinner, Langlois and Devlin were absent on account of illness, making the majority 53. To extract any comfort for either the Opposition or the Protectionists out of that vote is like trying to draw sunbeams from cucumbers. Immediately afterwards Mr. Cartwright's anti tax resolution was carried by a majority of 31, which should have been 55 had the Opposition acted fairly in the matter of pairs. In a full House and on a simple vote of confidence or non-confidence, uncomplicated by any side issues, the Government majority may fairly be set down at close on 60. The coal duty is one or two of its aspects is discussed elsewhere, and with this reference we hope to dismiss protection for the rest of the session.

THE COAL DUTY.

Those who are busily engaged in making up a "national policy" out of two or three classes of customs duties are beginning to find it up-hill work. For a while things went on swimmingly. The Nova Scotians wanted a duty on coal and sent in petitions for it. One of their members got a committee to take evidence and a number of speeches were made on the subject in the House. Dr. Orton wanted a duty on agricultural products and the Nova Scotians, it was hoped, would allow the one duty to stand as an offset to the other, while the equilateral triangle should be completed by protecting manufacturers at the expense of consumers generally. The Hamilton and Toronto Boards of Trade came to the rescue with "national policy" resolutions, and "all went merry as a marriage bell." It was almost a pity to spoil a scheme so well rounded off and so delightfully unselfish and patriotic. It is true that the facts were against its promoters, but that was only so much the worse for the facts. It is true they were warned about the folly of the course they were pursuing, but all warning was thrown away on partisans bent on their own destruction.

Most mercilessly have the absurdity and utter selfishness of the so-called "national policy" advocates been exposed in the course of the great tariff debate, and in the very coal committee which was relied upon as one of the means of promoting the policy. In answer to some Nova Scotia interviewers on Saturday last Mr. Mackenzie showed that a small duty on coal would do the mine-owners no good because it would not enable them to ship coal to the upper provinces. He mentioned as an illustration the fact that last fall when the Government asked for tenders for a supply of coal for the Public Works Department the lowest that came from Nova Scotia was $5.39 a ton, while Pennsylvania coal was being delivered at Toronto for $6.65. This was a settler, but worse was still in store for the advocates of the "national policy." One prominent coal representative in his evidence before the committee declared that those on whose behalf he spoke would not care to accept the proposition of the Boards of Trade above mentioned, coupling a duty on coal with a general revision of the tariff with a view to the protection of our industrial interests generally. This was a cruel rebuff, amounting in fact to a refusal to co-operate with the promoters of a tax on cereals and manufactures and to a declaration that if they could not get a tax on coal without the imposition of another on bread they would rather take nothing at all. But worse than even this remained in store for the "national policy" advocates. Another coal representative asserted that while the Pennsylvania coal owners can sell their coal at the mines for 80 or 90 cents and make a small profit the Nova Scotia miners cannot deliver coal free on board cars or vessels at a profit for less than $2 a ton in lots of 50,000 tons or $1 75 in lots of 100,000 tons. He admitted the difference to be owing to the better mechanical appliances in use in Pennsylvania. It was clear therefore that when he also admitted that the proposed duty of 75 cents would not take Nova Scotia coal further west than Toronto, he was simply asking Parliament to make up to the owners of the mines the loss they sustained by their want of mechanical ingenuity and business energy. In this connection it is well to notice the statement of Mr. Worts respecting the prices at which he can obtain American coal. Owing to the immense quantities used by Gooderham & Worts in their business no better authority can be found. He states that he can obtain at the mines "good, merchantable, well-screened "nut coal" for 50 cents a ton, and can have it laid down at their works for a total cost of $3 15 a ton. He also states that he has contracted for a lot for 35 cents a ton, and that their engineer prefers it to lump coal. With coal procurable at such rates competition on the part of Nova Scotia coal costing from $1 50 to $2 00 at the pit's mouth is out of the question.

Such admissions and testimony settle the fate of the proposed coal duty. The question will not bear inspection for a moment, and seeing this the advocates of the duty have apparently given the thing up as hopeless and are pressing for a bounty on exported coal instead. While we are free to confess that if aid is to be given this is the least objectionable form in which it can be put, we must also confess that we do not see why the coal industry should be relieved and the lumber interests neglected. On the whole we are of opinion that the coal-owners will have to be satisfied without either a duty or a bounty, and that their best course is to take the Premier's advice and develope their iron industry by the aid of their superfluous coal. Meanwhile what is to become of the forlorn hope that has pinned its faith to a "national policy" which no section of the nation will have anything to do with?

The Vienna correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* had an interview with Gen. Ignatieff Monday in which the latter expressed himself with much bitterness against Great Britain's policy. The sole question, he says, is whether the decisions of the Conference are to be enforced by Europe or Russia alone. Russia cannot demobilize without getting something in return for her sacrifices and to satisfy public opinion. He asserted that Russia would not occupy Constantinople if offered her on a gold dish. The Czar would sooner go to war than endure taunts from Turkey. The protocol might avert war if England would see that her interests are identical with Russia's, not Turkey's.

A Rome correspondent writes that the Pope, amid the feverish excitement and unremitting labors relating to the Consistory, has fallen ill again. After the secret Consistory on the 18th inst. he fainted and had to stop reading the allocution. These fainting fits have recurred, and the Pope has remained unconscious longer each time. He does not like his illness to be perceived, and makes strong efforts to hide it. These produce a painful reaction. The moment he gets back to his town apartments he sinks into a chair, and remains motionless, with his eyes closed, like a corpse. His physicians regard the fatiguing receptions of pilgrims with great apprehension. Meanwhile, the Jesuits and others are endeavoring by every means to get France and Austria to revive the Roman question. It is hoped to induce Paris to cede the Leonine City to the Pope, in order to avoid the necessity of withdrawing from Rome that an asylum.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

—Three days voting on the Dunkin Bill in the county of York has given it a majority of 468. It is stated the voting will not conclude till early next week.

—Sir John Macdonald and all those Tories who claim a monopoly of loyalty in the country should take to heart the declaration of the *London Times* that their protection agitation is "dangerous to the unity of feeling which is the strongest bond of the Empire." What has become of that "little bird," and where is "British connection?"

—The Opposition slander organs are not to go unwhipped. The Sarnia *Canadian* started a story about the Mackenzie firm at that place buying a large quantity of tubing before the advance in the tariff, and insinuated that the Premier had given them a hint. The slander was copied far and wide by the Tory prints; and now the *Canadian* will have an opportunity of proving its charges in court, Mr. Mackenzie having obtained a criminal information from the Court of Queen's Bench in Toronto on Tuesday. Chief Justice Hagarty, who granted the rule, condemned the article in question as "excessively scandalous."

—The Ottawa correspondent of the *Mail* insinuates that one of the *Globe's* articles on the Secret Service investigation was written by the "bald Ananias" of the latter paper. Who this gentleman may be the reader must judge for himself, but in so important a matter the organs ought at least to be consistent. Cotemporaneously with the *Mail* correspondent's delicate allusion to a brother journalist the London *Free Press* was speaking of the writer of the same article as "shaking his ambrosial curls." Now what we are most concerned to know is how a "bald Ananias" can shake his "ambrosial curls." This appears to be one of the things "no fellah can understand." We give it up. Perhaps the Kingston *Whig* can explain.

—Our exposition of the Northern Railway scandal and the utter baselessness of the *Warder's* attack on the Reform Government has compelled that high-toned organ to take another tack, and it is now inclined to imitate Mr. Hector Cameron's devious tactics. It endeavors to eke out a case by garbling from THE POST, and by reckless attacks on Reform papers and politicians. That course is not new. Having no case the policy is to abuse your opponent. We shall no doubt have occasion to refer to this matter again, for additional revelations have been made. At present we have only space to ask the *Warder* to give a candid opinion of Mr. John Beverly Robinson's conduct. We need not ask for an opinion about the Chieftian because he "can do no wrong."

—Our Reform cotemporaries and the public generally are entirely too particular about that $6,000 secret service money paid over to Senator Campbell by Sir John, who got it in a peculiar way. They are even incredulous when Sir John declares that the Senator was responsible to somebody for that amount. Do they not recollect that the Hon. Senator made a rapid flank movement upon New York not long ago, just in time to "nip in the bud" another grand Fenian invasion? It is true some malicious persons insinuate that the Senator's strategy was facilitated by the Kingston election trial then in progress, but that is a vile libel slander. It was at that time or in connection therewith that Senator Campbell required the six thousand, and his right to it should not be questioned. Was not the public treasury designed for the special enjoyment of such persons as Senator Campbell and Beverley Robinson, and were not their hands designed for the public treasury?

—Noting the wonderful powers of the telephone in transmitting sound the Brockville *Recorder* gravely states "the importance of the new instrument has already been seized upon by the United Empire Club of Toronto. During the next summer it is proposed to hold bun feeds in every constituency in Ontario, each Saturday. Sir John and Dr. Tupper will alternately preside at the instrument in Toronto, connecting wires being laid to all points where three of the faithful may assemble with a pound of biscuit and a kettle of hot water. So far the only difficulty experienced has been the delicacy of the telephone, it being impossible to construct one which will stand the strain of Dr. Tupper's eloquence. Sir John will spare no pains or expense in seeing that the instrument is perfected and had the Premier kept quiet a little longer, the cost might have been put down to Secret Service Fund, or a new means of ascertaining when the Fenians are coming."

—Mr. Langevin has been re-elected for Charlevoix by 25 or 30 majority, but it is charged that bribery, corruption and intimidation prevailed extensively, and a protest is to be entered at once. Among other things it appears Mr. Tarte, Mr. Langevin's chief assistant, issued a manifesto to the electors, in which he declared that the Judges of the Supreme Court are composed of six members of whom two "are priest eaters, bad Catholics, and four Protestants, who have declared that their Lordships the Bishops have committed a crime a punishable crime in issuing a pastoral, and that our Holy Father the Pope is equally guilty as they, since he approves of that pastoral." It proceeded to say that "if the question which the electors have to judge is very important it is also very simple and comprehensible. They have to say by their votes if they approve of Mr. Trembly having passed censure through the Supreme Court upon the Pope and our bishops, if the mandament of the bishops has been declared a fraudulent trick. In the approaching contest the bishops will be disqualified and condemned to prison, if indeed the priests were last year. The good God is weary at seeing his ministers scoffed at and abused, and He will punish this country as He has punished other countries which have placed themselves in revolt against the authority of His Church. All the priests in the county are against Mr. Trembly. Let those who are in doubt consult their priest. In his name he has the right to answer those who ask him questions. He will tell them that a vote this year for Mr. Trembly is worse even than in the past year."

—Mr. Hector Cameron is evidently a much maligned man, or else two meanings can be taken from his now celebrated speech in Parliament on the Northern Railway matter. Under the impression that he was defending Mr. Robinson it seems we libelled him in the most atrocious manner, but so devoted a Tory as the Bobcaygeon *Independent* is much worse for it intimates that he was a "besotted partisan." Our Bobcaygeon cotemporary says: "The exposures of fraud are very startling, but what is most painful to every right thinking man is the obvious fact that though fraud, embezzlement and corruption are made apparent as mud in a wine glass, yet the Tory bigots who support Sir John Macdonald can see no wrong and actually justify the whole of the proceedings. It is with regret we have to notice that our member Mr. Hector Cameron, though his own sense of right and wrong must satisfy him that Beverley Robinson and Cumberland improperly appropriated the money of the Railway Company, WAS so BESOTTED WITH PARTY PREJUDICE THAT HE STOOD UP IN HIS PLACE IN THE HOUSE TO DEFEND FRAUD AND JUSTIFY EMBEZZLEMENT." When a Tory intellect kept so keen as that of our Bobcaygeon cotemporary is by Pigeon Lake trout and Bull Lake bass attributes this course to Mr. Cameron there must be something peculiar about the case. What did Mr. Cameron really say? It is evident the newspaper reports of his speech were not verbatim but judging from the *Globe's* summary we must conclude that Mr. Cameron did not stand up in his place in the House "to defend fraud and justify embezzlement" in so many words. But what was the general tenor of his whole speech? Was it designed to draw away attention from John B.'s pilfering? Did he condemn the conduct of "his very dear friend?" Can he take up the challenge of our correspondent "Consistency?" Some idea may be formed from the official report in the *Hansard*, if it has not been revised by Mr. Cameron with too much care.

The Oxford-Cambridge boat-race was a tie this year. Oxford would have won but broke an oar.

The Pope has lost the use of his leg and is carried about in his chair. His life is not in danger. He has received special assurances on that score from others may suffer thereby. Until it can be shown, however, that Nova Scotia

ECHOES FROM THE CAPITAL.

PARLIAMENTARY—THE TARIFF DEBATE—THE CHIEFTAIN'S AMENDMENT—SUGGESTIVE FACTS—A STOP TO "CONSERVATIVE REACTION"—NORTHERN RAILWAY DEVELOPMENTS—SECRET SERVICE DISCLOSURES—CIVIL SERVICE REFORM—THE COAL TRADE—THE WORK OF THE SESSION.

[Special correspondence of The Post.]

OTTAWA, March 27.

THAT "WHAT IS IT."

The Opposition "What is it?" fathered by the wily Chieftain, was strangled on Friday night last, when the House, by a majority of 49, decided that it was not expedient to "re-adjust the tariff so as to foster our manufacturing, mining and agricultural interests." Dr. Orton's amendment was put first, and defeated by a majority of 39, the comparative smallness of the majority on this occasion being caused by the fact that Messrs. Lewis Ross, McGregor and Norris voted with the Opposition. The result of the voting on Sir John's amendment was received with loud cheers from the Ministerial side, while the Chieftain and his right-hand man, the Doctor for Cumberland, looked disconcerted enough. How would all those sensational headings about "Government majority reduced to 31" look in the light of this division, the first real party vote of the session. Mr. Pope, of Queen's, (P.E.I.) who was elected as a pledged free trader, found himself in a rather awkward position. He was compelled to announce that he would have to vote against the amendments, but he compromised the matter by denouncing the manner in which the Government proposed to readjust the tariff, and thus placed himself in a position to vote against them on the original resolution. Under ordinary circumstances, after Sir John's amendment had been voted down, the original resolution would have been allowed to pass without further opposition. Sir John knew he could count on Mr. Pope's vote, however, and nettled at the result of the vote on his own amendment, he called for another division, hoping thereby to give the member for Queen's an opportunity to set himself right and also to reduce the Ministerial majority to 47. His first expectation was fulfilled, but while Mr. Pope changed so did Messrs. Robillard and Coupal, thus increasing the Government majority to 51. It was noticeable that Messrs. Brown and Montplaisier, two supporters of the Government so far as the general policy is concerned voted with the Opposition on this occasion, while but one Manitoba member voted with the Opposition and four from British Columbia. The Opposition will move an amendment to the resolution on tea, but it is generally understood that no further discussion of any moment will take place.

CHARLEVOIX AND KAMOURASKA.

The success of the Liberal candidate in the Local election in Kamouraska with Mr. Langevin's narrow escape, has put an end to all further talk of "Conservative reaction," and the Opposition are not half so hopeful of success at the general election as they were a few days ago. The result of the voting on the tariff resolutions has not been at all satisfactory either, and altogether the "depression" is very severe among the pseudo-Protectionists at the present time, with no certainty that they have touched bottom yet. Their pretensions of purity, newly found though they be, have been cast in the shade by the secret service and Northern Railway developments, and they are very fretful indeed. This fretfulness of feeling is more particularly noticeable in the

NORTHERN RAILWAY COMMITTEE,

where, under the light of Mr. Guthrie's examination, fresh developments are daily taking place. No wonder the President and Managing Director tearfully besought the committee not to go on with the investigation. Mr. Guthrie's experience as a lawyer does him good service here, and although the Opposition members of the committee seek to obstruct his pathway at nearly every step, he goes perseveringly on. The manner in which some of the Conservative organs are now abusing him is sufficient evidence that he has done his duty but thoroughly. In Mr. Bertram he finds an able assistant, more especially in investigating the books. To show how very anxious the Company's officers are, I might state that on Friday last Mr. Bertram was observed to be looking over one of the account books, making a note here and there. Some remarks aside to the Opposition members of the committee were audible, but when the correspondent of the *Witness* joined Mr. Bertram and also peered into the book, the climax was reached, and Mr. D'Arcy Boulton, the Company's solicitor, took occasion to object to strangers examining the books. One would suppose that in an examination of this kind the books were, in a certain sense, public property, but "our solicitor" thinks not. People may place what construction they please on this little incident. One of the most damaging revelations which has as yet taken place is that when Mr. Henry Robinson was a member of the House, and at a time when the Company was endeavoring to secure the passage of a Bill, that gentleman drew no less than six large drafts on the company for expenses connected with "legislation." Mr. Cumberland professes not to know the destination of the money. Perhaps J. B. will throw a little light on the subject when called upon to appear before the committee.

THAT $6,000.

The "Chieftain" has been before the Public Accounts Committee, and told his little tale about the Secret Service money. The examination was conducted by Mr. Casgrain in the committee room, and of course is able to get pretty much such answers as he desires from the witnesses. It is not likely coal owners will object to anything in their own interest, no matter how much others may suffer thereby. Until it can be shown, however, that Nova Scotia coal can be laid down in the different ports of Ontario as cheaply as American coal, the Nova Scotia coal owners need not look for special legislation.

THE SESSION.

The House will probably adjourn from Thursday next until the following Tuesday, when business will again be resumed. Prorogation is not expected before the first of May. The Pacific Railway and Georgian Bay Branch question, Customs, Insurance and Insolvent bills, the Anglin business and a host of other questions, on which long discussions will take place, have yet to come up. While in supply but little progress has been made yet. It has been comparatively a session of "talk," a state of things for which the Opposition is wholly responsible.

ONTARIO BANK DEPOSITS.

On Monday Mr. Bowell, who does the dirty work for the Opposition leaders, moved for a return of deposits in the Ontario Bank. Of course this led to insinuations in regard to corrupt bargains, undue influence in South Ontario, Senator Simpson's letter, etc. Even Mr. McQuade got up for the first time to say in a few broken sentences that this influence had been used against him. Sir John believed that if South Ontario had been protested, Mr. Cameron, the member elected, would have been unseated, an observation which lost much of its force when Mr. Blake recalled a meeting held after the election for the purpose of considering whether a protest should be entered or not, and at which Mr. Gibbs himself counselled against such a course. The facts in regard to the bank were fully explained by both Messrs. Cartwright and Blake. They pointed out the manner in which the late Government centralized the deposits at Montreal, and that in justice to Ontario, it was deemed right to deposit considerable sums in the larger institutions of that province. The Government had been incurring great expenditures in the Northwest, and as the Ontario Bank had branches at Prince Arthur's Landing and Winnipeg the necessary reserves were kept there. The amounts were constantly fluctuating, and therefore interest was not charged lest the bank should claim a right to invest the money. The Bank of Commerce did not hold larger deposits for the simple reason that it refused to receive them. Poor Mr. Bowell! He retired sadly worsted on this occasion by his opponents with the addition of a snub from Sir John for a preposterous and uncalled-for insinuation against Mr. Cartwright in connection with the failure of the old Commercial Bank.

STILL ANOTHER.

In connection with the Northern Railway disclosures the Conservatives have been solacing themselves with the idea that Mr. Edgar and other Reformers were implicated. But they are destined to disappointment. Mr. Cumberland has explained it all away by the declaration on oath that Mr. Edgar received no money for his influence in Parliament, nor was he in any improper manner compromised. Very different is the position of John Beverley, who sinks deeper into the mire at every step. The statement that he was not allowed an opportunity of being examined before the Commission has been positively denied by letters from Hon. O. Mowat and Mr. Larratt W. Smith, who state that every effort was made to call him as a witness, but that he declined to be examined.

SECRET SERVICE.

The Premier was examined before the Public Accounts Committee yesterday (Tuesday,) in reference to the Secret Service expenditure. He showed that the first knowledge he had of the transaction was after the refund had been made, when he at once took steps to have explanations given in regard to the $6,000 retained. Sir John was very backward, however, and suggested that a word or two from the Premier would make it all right at the Public Accounts Committee. The Premier animadverted severely on Mr. Langton's conduct in withholding all knowledge of the fact that there was a balance until two years after Sir John had "depression" is very severe among the pseudo-Protectionists at the present time, with no certainty that they have touched bottom yet. Their pretensions of purity, newly found though they be, have been cast in the shade by the secret service and Northern Railway developments, and they are very fretful indeed. This fretfulness of feeling is more particularly noticeable in the

NORTHERN RAILWAY COMMITTEE,

where, under the light of Mr. Guthrie's examination, fresh developments are daily taking place. No wonder the President and Managing Director tearfully besought the committee not to go on with the investigation. Mr. Guthrie's experience as a lawyer does him good service here, and although the Opposition members of the committee seek to obstruct his pathway at nearly every step, he goes perseveringly on. The manner in which some of the Conservative organs are now abusing him is sufficient evidence that he has done his duty but thoroughly. In Mr. Bertram he finds an able assistant, more especially in investigating the books. To show how very anxious the Company's officers are, I might state that on Friday last Mr. Bertram was observed to be looking over one of the account books, making a note here and there. Some remarks aside to the Opposition members of the committee were audible, but when the correspondent of the *Witness* joined Mr. Bertram and also peered into the book, the climax was reached, and Mr. D'Arcy Boulton, the Company's solicitor, took occasion to object to strangers examining the books. One would suppose that in an examination of this kind the books were, in a certain sense, public property, but "our solicitor" thinks not. People may place what construction they please on this little incident. One of the most damaging revelations which has as yet taken place is that when Mr. Henry Robinson was a member of the House, and at a time when the Company was endeavoring to secure the passage of a Bill, that gentleman drew no less than six large drafts on the company for expenses connected with "legislation." Mr. Cumberland professes not to know the destination of the money. Perhaps J. B. will throw a little light on the subject when called upon to appear before the committee.

THAT $6,000.

The "Chieftain" has been before the Public Accounts Committee, and told his little tale about the Secret Service money. The examination was conducted by Mr. Casgrain in the committee room, and of course is able to get pretty much such answers as he desires from the witnesses. It is not likely coal owners will object to anything in their own interest, no matter how much others may suffer thereby. Until it can be shown, however, that Nova Scotia

THE LINDSAY PRIZE CANE FOR MR. MACKENZIE.

PRESENTATION OF THE PRIZE WON IN THE CATHOLIC BAZAAR. PRELIMINARY SPEECHES. THE PREMIER'S REPLY.

[Special correspondence of The Post.]

OTTAWA, March 29th.

This forenoon in the offices of the Premier the concluding act in what was, I believe, a keen and spirited contest took place. The handsome gold-headed cane voted to Mr. Mackenzie by popular vote at the bazaar held in your town last month by the ladies of the congregation of St. Mary's, was presented to the Premier by a deputation consisting of Messrs. Ryan of Marquette, Ross of Durham, Bertram, Ross of Prince Edward, Biggar, Oliver, Kerr, Shibly and Burk, accompanied by the genial Secretary of the Ontario Reform Association, Mr. G. R. Patullo. Upon Mr. Ryan devolved the by no means easy task of making the presentation and the speech. He is one of the most promising young members of the House, a fluent speaker, and a fine scholar, and on this occasion he discharged the duty committed to him in the most felicitous way. The Premier's reply was equally happy, and the pleasing incident will no doubt have some significance. Mr. Mackenzie is in duty bound to supplement his speech by a visit to your town and personally show his appreciation of the compliment paid to him, and I have no doubt you and your readers will cordially second this suggestion. The cane is a very handsome one. It is a substantial support, and the gold head is elegantly chased and ornamented. It bears the following inscription: "Voted to Hon. A. Mackenzie at the Roman Catholic Bazaar, Lindsay, February 10th, 1877, and presented to him by the ladies."

THE ADDRESS.

Mr. RYAN, who spoke without notes, in making the presentation, said: "Mr. Mackenzie, we have come here this morning to perform a very agreeable commission entrusted by ladies, and because it honors one whom we know as a able statesman and a true patriot. The Catholic ladies of Lindsay intely held a bazaar in that town, at which they announced their intention to present this cane to the most popular gentleman in the country. For as could be ascertained by the votes cast at the closing of the bazaar, two candidates only were nominated, Sir John A. Macdonald and yourself. The poll was kept open for a fortnight, and at the conclusion of the bazaar it was ascertained that you had received the greater number of votes. To a Reformer like yourself it will doubtless be satisfactory to know that the election was conducted upon the most advanced Reform principles and with a most extended franchise, ladies as well as gentlemen having voted. We have frequently of late seen evidences of a greater political significance than a presentation like this interpreted as convincing evidence of a great political reaction. We have no desire thus to interpret this affair. Strong in the esteem and regard of those who follow you, stronger still in the unshaken conviction of the Canadian people in your personal rectitude and political integrity, you can well leave to those who have not the same tangible evidences of public trust to extract from make-shifts of loyal or personal regard a political significance which does not fairly attach and a consolation which the authorized channels for the expression of public opinion in the country fail to yield. In the name of the ladies and on behalf of your many friends and supporters in Lindsay and the neighborhood, we ask of you to accept this cane as a slight testimonial of admiration and regard for one whose record proves him the consistent and fearless advocate of entire equality to all Canadians, irrespective of race or creed."

MR. MACKENZIE'S REPLY.

Mr. MACKENZIE said: "I am certainly obliged, in the first instance, to the Roman Catholic ladies of Lindsay for their kindness in presenting me with this handsome gift, and to you for the kind words you have used in making the presentation. I especially feel your kindness in speaking of the position I have taken in the past in advocating civil rights and the perfect equality of all classes and creeds in the country. I have been brought up in a school in which religious equality, perfect equality in every way, is the predominant principle, and nothing has given me greater pleasure than to have assisted to some extent during bygone years in giving effect to that principle. This testimony from the town of Lindsay to the predominant feeling of my mind in favor of civil rights and the perfect equality of all religious creeds, I receive with very great gratification, though I am fully aware that any preference that may be exhibited in a local gathering, such as the one at Lindsay, may not be regarded as one of a very extensive nature. Still, I think I may regard this handsome present as an indication of a favorable feeling on behalf of the party I lead, more than as a recognition of any personal efforts I may have made on behalf of that particular place. I can only say that nothing will give me greater pleasure so long as I remain in public life than to aid in promoting that feeling of harmony among the various Christian denominations which have been for many years the peculiar characteristic of the Canadian people. I happen to know the Rev. Father Stafford, in whose congregation the bazaar was held, and I have long looked upon him as one of the most advanced advocates of the principles of religious equality. I knew him to be a gentleman who has distinguished himself in moral reform, and in Christian liberality, and in the generous encouragement of the industrious co-laborers with himself in building up our common country." (Hear, hear.) Mr. Mackenzie concluded by asking the deputation to convey to Father Stafford and the ladies of Lindsay his hearty appreciation of their kindness.

BIRTHS.

PATERSON.—In Beaverton, on the 13th inst., the wife of Mr. N. F. Paterson, Barrister, of a daughter.

IRWIN.—On Wednesday, 21st inst., the wife of Mr. Wm. John Irwin, of Little Britain, of a son.

POSTER.—On Thursday, 22nd inst., at Little Britain, the wife of Mr. James Porter, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

MAGWOOD—THORNBURY.—In the Canada Methodist Church, Gloucester, on the 14th March, by the Rev. A. C. Wilson, Mr. Henry Stewart Magwood, to Miss Ellen, youngest daughter of Mr. John Thornbury, all of Elmdale.

WILSON—MURCHISON.—At the residence of the bride's father, on the 21st inst., by the Rev. D. McOdrum, John Wilson, to Sarah, second daughter of Mr. Kenneth Murchison, of Fenelon.

DEATHS.

BLACKWELL.—At Dunsford, on March 23rd, Minnie Blanche, daughter of Mr. Wm. Blackwell, aged 4 years.

Bradburn & Mason.

BRADBURN & MASON,

CORNER STORE, DOHENY BLOCK, LINDSAY, ONT.

BEG TO CALL THE ATTENTION OF THEIR LADY CUSTOMERS TO THE

CELEBRATED CROMPTON CORSET

ADJUSTABLE CORSET

NOW IN STOCK.

J. E. THORNBURY, MANAGER.

P. S.—A first-class Cutter on the premises, and all Clothes cut free.

Communications.

MR. HECTOR CAMERON AND THE NORTHERN RAILWAY.

[*To the Editor of* THE C