W. S. Porter.

WANTED
500 MEN,
500 WOMEN,
500 BOYS AND GIRLS,
IN AN
1,000 PERSONS,

MAGAZINES & NEWSPAPERS

W. S. PORTER.

W. J. McLean.

NEW YORK CLUB SKATES,

SILVER WARE,

Five Hundred Tons of Coal,

Coal, Wood, Ashes, Hay
and Shelf Hardware.

Morning and Evening

CAPITAL, $2,000,000.

Canadian Post.

LINDSAY, FRIDAY, JAN. 18, 1878.

Publisher's Notices.

NOTICE TO PAY UP

A large number of accounts, particularly small ones, for Printing and Advertising, have not been paid, despite notifications that if unsettled costs will be incurred. Those accounts will be placed in the next division courts if not settled at once, and parties who have been neglectful and tardy must bear the consequences.

THE PENDING ELECTIONS.

The result of the four, if not five, election contests now going on, in various parts of the Dominion, will be looked forward to with a good deal of anxiety. We are so entirely unacquainted with the state of public feeling in each constituency that we have no intention of hazarding any prediction on our own account, but it seems to be taken for granted on all hands that the Hon. Mr. Vail is sure to be returned by a large majority for the county of Digby. Mr. Jones will probably have a closer, as he will certainly have a keener, contest in Halifax, but it seems to be generally admitted that his greatest danger lies in the desire of the coal owners of Nova Scotia to have a duty placed upon imported coal. The defeat of Mr. Jones would not be an indication that protection is popular in the Maritime Provinces, however, and when the general election comes we shall be able to see from the addresses of candidates how many of them are willing to stake their chances of re-election on a pledge to support a protective tariff. Mr. Moffatt is said to have abandoned Hestigonche to its fate, and the chances are that Mr. Baldwin, an Independent, will be elected in his stead. In view of the strong personality of Mr. Moffat such a result would be a great gain for the Ministry. If the Hon. Peter Mitchell resigns, as has resigned, he will probably be returned either by acclamation or by a large majority, but we have no idea that he will seek to gain popularity by promising to vote for a duty on flour, coal and salt, three commodities which his constituents are deeply interested in procuring as cheaply as possible. Mr. Cunningham, who represents New Westminster in British Columbia, will, if report speaks truly, be able to strengthen his position as a ministerial candidate by the fact that the chances are now in favour of the Fraser River route being chosen for the Pacific Railway. The matter was to have been determined by the surveys of the past season, and it is well known that for some time past the heads have been running high. We do not imagine that Mr. Mackenzie will be influenced either one way or another in his decision by the result of one or a dozen elections; we should be very sorry indeed to have to suspect him of motives so ignoble. But it remains true, nevertheless, that the people of any locality may be alienated most effectually by simply not giving them what they ask no matter how unreasonable their request may be, and by granting to the people of another locality their wish however reasonable. The prospect of getting the Pacific Railway terminus at Burrard Inlet would make many favorably to the Government who would oppose it if Port Moody were to be the choice, even though the question of route were to be determined solely on public grounds.

THE INDEPENDENCE OF PARLIAMENT

The nearer we come to the opening of the session at Ottawa the more plainly it appears that the lively scenes enacted last year in the House of Commons are to be repeated if not improved upon this year. What the crop of scandals in process of incubation by the Opposition may consist of is still a profound secret, but it is no secret that there is going to be a fierce fight over the Independence of Parliament. Once more we take the opportunity of calling our readers' attention to the situation. Last session Mr. Mackenzie, Powell moved a motion which, if carried, would have had the effect of unseating Mr. Anglin without form of trial and therefore without allowing him an opportunity of saying a word in his own defence or making any explanations. Sir John A. Macdonald himself moved a similar motion against Mr. Norris. Both of these motions were very properly voted down and the case of Mr. Anglin was referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections, where it should have been sent in the first place. Mr. Norris doing away with the necessity for any such action in his case by resigning his seat. A motion having been introduced to refer the case of Mr. Currier to the same committee he also resigned. When the committee met to discuss Mr. Anglin's case after the evidence had been taken Sir John A. Macdonald moved and Mr. Hector Cameron seconded a motion the effect of which would have been, had it carried, to deprive Mr. Anglin of his seat without defining the principle on which the action was based. Then the Government members of the committee were unwilling to accede to, seeing that in the old Canadian Parliament an election committee of which Sir John Rose was chairman had given a precisely contrary decision. In other words Sir John Rose's committee had openly declared that doing Government printing without an express contract was not a breach of the Independence of Parliament Act, and any committee coming to a contrary decision was bound to give, as his grave, the reasons on which its finding was based. The motion of Sir John A. Macdonald was therefore amended by adding the reasons for declaring that Mr. Anglin, who had no express contract, had violated the law by doing a class of government work which had been done by members almost from time immemorial without molestation. The motion as thus amended was carried without, we believe, a dissenting voice, and as a consequence of its passage Mr. Anglin resigned his seat.

It is unnecessary to pursue this branch of the subject further. What we wish to draw attention particularly to just now is the attitude of the Opposition on this question which they themselves raised and on the merits of which there is at bottom no real difference of opinion between the two parties. All are agreed that it is best to keep Parliament independent by preventing its members from entering into financial transactions with the Government of the day as representing the Crown. Had Mr. Bowell contented himself with asserting this as a general principle in connection with the Anglin case we could have heartily concurred with him; but spite and malice got the better of the Opposition leaders and they have fallen floundering into the pit they dug for their opponents. The new principle laid down in the report of the Privileges and Elections Committee is that an implied contract has been entered into by any one who either does work for the government and accepts payment for it, or sells for money any article the government may require for the public service. That report, therefore, may be regarded as covering almost every possible transaction, and as involving every member of any company which engages in it. The Act makes no exception in favour of partnerships, joint-stock companies, or incorporated associations. According to its sweeping provisions the shareholder in a railway company paid for carrying the mails forfeits his seat as effectually as the partner in an ordinary business house which sells to the Government a plank or a shovel, and the members of an incorporated printing company which prints an advertisement in a newspaper is in just as bad a position legally as the proprietor of a job office who does thousands of dollars of government printing. This may be an unreasonable law but it is the law, and if those who have violated it do not like it they ought to have studied its provisions thoroughly before invoking their assistance to gain a victory. There can be no doubt as to the technical guilt of many members of the House of Commons besides those who have resigned. In addition to Messrs. Anglin, Norris and Currier, who were all re-elected, Messrs. Cunningham, Jones, and Vail have resigned, and are now before their constituents, while Mr. Moffat has resigned and declined a contest. It is stated that Mr. Mitchell has also thrown up the sponge, and it seems not unlikely that all four will be returned.

In view of the interpretation put upon the Act and it is unquestionably the correct interpretation there can be no doubt of the validity of the charges made against Mr. Bowell, Mr. Stephenson, Mr. Desjardin, and their chief, Sir John A Macdonald, the last two of whom are members of the committee which prepared the report unseating Mr. Anglin. The first three have all done government printing during the present Parliament, and Sir John A Macdonald's law firm has received payment for legal advice and services in a suit conducted at the instance and on behalf of the Government. The point has been raised by the *Mail* and Montreal *Gazette* that even if Messrs. Bowell and Stephenson were contractors in the sense in which the Act uses the term, their contracts were entered into before the last election which therefore purged them of any offence just as resignation, would now. The plea is too flimsy to bear investigation. Part of the work was in each case done since the commencement of the present Parliament, and so long as the contract was not fulfilled they continued to be contractors. They were so at the time the election was held and they were, therefore, ineligible from the outset. The amount received since their election makes no difference in the bearing of the law on the case, and as they received each a large sum for work done before they are beyond the pale of sympathy on moral grounds. Mr. Bowell was a persistent violator for years of the law he invokes for the punishment of Mr. Anglin, and, in all seriousness we say it, to allow him to escape the penalty of resignation now would be a great mistake. Sir John's case is still worse. While Minister of Justice he for years employed his own firm to advise the Government, and paid them what he thought proper. When others have been compelled to resign for trifling and unwitting offences it would be in the last degree unfair that he, the chief offender, should get off scot free.

RESOLUTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Some time ago the Reform Convention of South Grey, an almost purely agricultural constituency, passed a resolution condemning the agitation for protection to agriculture and repudiating those who were instrumental in originating and maintaining it. Although the men who passed this resolution were nearly all farmers there was set up at once in the Conservative journals a perfect chorus of abusive criticism of their act. They were described as "cheeky," "impudent," "presumptuous" and everything else in that line, because they claimed the right to express their opinion as farmers on a point which concerned them and on which the Opposition demagogues have for months past been inviting and challenging them to speak. If the farmers of the country cannot tell whether they want protection or not who can speak for them? Must they accept Dr. Orton as their spokesman a man who has made himself utterly ridiculous by his treatment of the subject, and has brought no small amount of ridicule on those whose self appointed champion he is? Or, repudiating Dr. Orton, shall they fall back upon the little clique of manufacturers whose deliverances we called our readers' attention to some time ago? Talk of presumption in such a connection! Those who are guilty of it are the quack protectionist of Centre Wellington and the manufacturers who are cooking the shot of the farmers to get their own wares protected and trying meanwhile to sugar the protection pill for their dupes by prating about protection to agriculture. One of the resolutions adopted recently by the manufacturers' convention held in Toronto is as follows:

"That the great agricultural interest of Canada suffers grievous wrong through the present one-sided system of allowing American farm produce to enter our market duty free, while our produce has to pay heavy toll on entering the American market; and that justice to our class requires that we insist (unless control on the other side of the border with equal advice) on one side or more and no less also that the consequences of justice should be extended to our milling and mining interests."

Who are the men who talk thus glibly about a matter of so much interest to the farmer? Was there a single farmer amongst them? Did they think the farmer was too much lacking in intelligence to be worthy of a seat at their council board? Or did they think that it was necessary to exclude him lest he might tell them some wholesome truths and estimate their clap-trap at its true value? The President of the Association and one or two others are millers; the rest are no more connected with agriculture than other men in the community whose sole connection with that noble pursuit arises from eating the wheat which the farmer produces. And yet the journals which lauded the manufacturers to the skies can find no expressions of contempt too strong to be applied to the South Grey farmers who may be supposed to know at least what they want. To say nothing of the presumption of those who adopted the above resolution it is perfectly clear from its statements that its authors and those who voted for it either knew nothing about the subject or thought that nobody else knew anything about it. It may be true that Canada suffers a wrong through the one-sided system described, but if she does she would double the amount of the injury by taking the advice thus tendered to her. We grow on the whole more grain than we consume, and from this it follows (1) that we must dispose of the surplus abroad, and (2) that we do not import grain from the United States for consumption here. We import it, but simply with a view to re-exportation, and while it is in this country a considerable proportion of it is ground into flour, string employment to both capital and labor. The resolution requires that we should put a duty of not less than 20 per cent. on imported grain; now what would be the consequence of such a step? It would not add a cent to the price obtained by Ontario farmers for their wheat because the provinces grown far more than enough to satisfy the home demand, but it would greatly increase the price of flour to the people of the Maritime Provinces who have to import the most of what they use. If it did increase the price of wheat here at all it could only do so at the expense of those who have to buy their flour or bread in cities and towns, or of our fellow citizens in Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick. How long, we may ask, would these people submit to be thus taxed for the farmers' benefit? And yet when the farmers themselves take a more just, liberal, and sensible view of the matter they are hooted and sneer ed at, and told to "stick to the ploughtail" and the manure heap by a pack of empirics who are actuated by motives that are certainly not lofty if they are not ignoble. The following is the resolution passed by the South Grey farmers:

"That this convention, which is chiefly composed of farmers, have learned with indignation the proceedings of certain would-be advocates of our interests in Parliament in assuming to speak for us as part of the trading community of Ontario, and alleging that we wish and need protection. We hereby utterly repudiate the allegation that we desire protection, believing that we should derive no advantage whatever from such a policy, and that it would be inimical to the best interests of the country; further, if it were possible, as these would-be patrons of ours allege, that a duty on American produce would increase the price of our grain, the immediate effect would be to increase the price of bread to the workingmen of the country without giving them any compensating advantage. We therefore repel with scorn the idea that we desire to grow rich at the expense of the workingmen in our cities and towns."

In point of structure as well as spirit this will compare favorably with the manufacturers' resolution quoted above. We have no hesitation, therefore, in letting them go forth side by side in our columns, quite confident that our agricultural readers will see for themselves which is at once the more philosophic and the more patriotic.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The London *Advertiser* proposes the abolition of the stamp duty and the imposition of a tax on legacies, so graded as to yield £2 on every £100 and £12,500 on every million. We do not wish to be selfish but for a very strong reasons we feel bound to oppose this idea.

Our Conservative friends are determined to prepare in good time for the "midnight march" of the "treacherous foe" and have held a convention in Toronto where the leaders endeavored to "enthuse" the party. The main objects, according to the *Mail*, had reference to the "infernal corruption" of the party, and the proceedings were necessarily private.

A somewhat unexpected turn has been given to Eastern affairs and to the negotiations for peace by the declaration of Austria- in which she is supported by England that these negotiations should be conducted on the basis of the Treaty of Paris, that is that all the Powers signing that treaty shall have a voice in the settlement, which is not to be direct between the combatants. This is a matter of great importance, and Russia will not yield with good grace. The Turks are all but panic-stricken by the Russian successes in Roumelia and Asia and are ready to make almost any concession for peace.

Mr. M. Boyd has returned from Toronto, where, with Mr. Ketchum, he has made arrangements for obtaining a charter. As soon as this is done, in two or three weeks steps will be taken to place the project formally before the municipalities interested with a view to obtain their support. In the meantime the scheme will receive discussion, and a correspondent elsewhere points out what he considers some objections. We do not agree with his conclusions, but give his views to the public. His arguments can be answered by the advocates of the road without much difficulty.

Kingston *Whig:* "The population of Toronto in 1876 was 67,543; in 1877 it was 70,870, an increase of 3,323 in a single year. An increase of population is generally accepted as an indication of prosperity as a decrease is of decadence and retrogression. How the Queen City, Tory as she is boasted to be, could so advance under Grit rule is and will likely remain an inexplicable mystery. We suppose we must accept it as one of the idiosyncracies, so to speak, of Cartwright rum. This reminds us that Kingston has also made rapid advances lately under the same inauspicious regime of Reform Government, a state of things utterly unknown during the palmy days when her own member in Parliament was Premier of the Dominion."

OUR TORONTO LETTER.

THE DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS. A SHARP CRITICISM TOPICS DISCUSSED IMPROVEMENT IN MEMBER RAILWAY AID POLICY TORONTO AND OTTAWA RAILWAY THE BOUNDARY QUESTION GOVERNMENT BUSINESS—THE "BUDGET."

[Special correspondence of The Post.]

Toronto, Jan. 5th, 1878.

At half-past twelve this morning the dreariest, dullest, most jejune and therefore the most wearisome debate which ever took place on an Address in reply to a "speech from the throne" came to an end greatly to the relief of the House itself and much more to the relief of the gallery. It is about time that this absurd farce of a long-winded rigmarole, dubbed by courtesy a "debate," should be abolished as it might easily be if the Premier would only give his followers a hint to leave all the talking to the other side. The leader of the House who first has the courage to deal with this nuisance will be hailed as a public benefactor. I do not approve of curtailing freedom of speech but all the talk on the Address is out of place unless there is to be an amendment moved to it by the Opposition. In every Parliament the Speech and and Address are now regarded as parts of the merely formal proceedings incidental to the opening of the session, and why under cover of the motion to pass the latter every member of the House should feel himself at liberty or be allowed the privilege of discussing every question he sees fit to introduce is more than I or any one else can comprehend. The debate on the present occasion occupied the afternoon sitting on Thursday, the afternoon and evening sittings on Friday, and both afternoon and evening sittings last night. The adjournment took place on Friday night at eleven and not till after midnight last night. The length of the debate would be nothing if anything were said worth listening to, but with the exception of half a dozen speeches that were passable the whole time was filled up with a succession of platitudes, bad jokes and betrayals of ignorance, nearly all clothed in the most execrable English. If there is really to be a reformation in this matter it must begin with the Ministry. Let the speech be as short as possible, consistent with decency, and let it be as straightforward as it can be made; let all ministerial explanations be as brief and unpolemical as they can be; and let the Premier discourage by both precept and example the loquacity of his own followers, and the *cuncthes loquendi* will soon subside amongst his opponents.

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THE LUMBER TRADE.

That there has been a partial return of better times no one denies, but the statement in the speech from the throne that the timbering industry has shared to some extent in this revival was challenged by a number of Opposition members, some of whom were not above giving utterance to the absurd suspicion that the statement was put into the speech for the express purpose of helping to bolster up the tottering Dominion Government by trying to persuade the public that times were now so bad as they were called. Had a plea of this sort been left exclusively to members of the cabinet Mr. Flesher or Mr. Bell no one would have felt surprised at its use, but a man of the stamp and ability of Mr. Patterson of Essex, ought to have been above keeping the House listening to such twaddle. The statement in the speech about the lumber trade is a very moderate one. It is to the effect that the home market for lumber has somewhat improved while the foreign market has not, and that the ready sale of limits at good prices to *bona fide* lumbermen was trustworthy evidence of an improvement having taken place in the condition of the industry generally. The correctness of this view was questioned by Mr. Macdougall of Simcoe, by Mr. Scott of Peterboro, by Mr. Deacon of Renfrew, and by several others less capable of forming a trustworthy judgment on the matter. Their arguments and objections were met by the statements of the Commissioner of Crown Lands and of Mr. Miller of Parry Sound, whose ability to form a correct opinion cannot reasonably be doubted. That the improvement is very slight is universally admitted, but that there is an improvement, and that it is one that will go on is equally certain. It would be a mistake, however, for lumberers to get out, on the strength of the change, heavier stocks than they would otherwise have done, and it is on the whole fortunate for the lumberers themselves that the want of snow this winter has hindered production to a considerable extent. Another question on which members had a good deal to say was that of

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THE BOUNDARY DISPUTE.

This has been dragging its slow length along for a great many years, and the fact that it is still unsettled gave Mr. Macdougall one more chance of airing his pet view that it ought to have been sent to the Privy Council for adjudication instead of being left to arbitrators. He took occasion at the same time to express the opinion that the northern boundary of the province had never been settled, and that the western boundary should be as far west at all events as the northwest angle of the Lake of the Woods. Mr. Mowat made a brief but spirited defence of the plan of settling the dispute by arbitration, and seemed to concur, in so far as the merits of the case were concerned, with the views enunciated by Mr. Macdougall, which, it may be added, are sustained by the reports of the Hon. David Mills and of Mr. Chas. Lindsay on the subject. Mr. Dawson of Algoma, who has a thorough knowledge of the subject, delivered an excellent speech upon it, pointing out the weakness of the Dominion case as presented in the report of Judge Ramsay.

THE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMME.

I may add that the Government have already announced other measures besides those foreshadowed in the speech, amongst them one to make Voters' Lists final and thus prevent such interminable election contests as the one in Lincoln, which county has been unrepresented for two sessions, and will not be represented during the present one. Mr. Treasurer Wood will make his budget speech early next week, after which the work of the session will go on with increased activity. Till then we are likely to have short sittings.

REMEMBER THIS.

Now is the time of your Pneumonia, Lung Fever, Coughs, Colds, and fatal results of predisposition to Consumption and other Throat and Lung Disease. BOSCHEE'S GERMAN SYRUP has been used in this neighborhood for the past two or three years without a single failure to cure. If you have not used this medicine yourself go to your Druggist, S. PERRIN, Kent-st., Lindsay, and ask him of its wonderful success among his customers. Three doses will relieve the worst case. If you have no faith in any medicine just buy a sample bottle of BOSCHEE'S GERMAN SYRUP for 10 cts. and try it. Regular size bottle, 75 cents. Don't neglect a cough to save 75 cents. 954-eow.

Communications.

THE COUNTY MODEL SCHOOL.

[*To the Editor of* THE CANADIAN POST.]

SIR,—While I am heartily in favor of the County Model Schools and freely admit all the advantages claimed for them in your editorial in THE POST of last week, as a ratepayer I must protest against the town being saddled with the expense of a School established for County purposes.

The Teacher's salary for the four months of last year during which the School was in operation was $353. Towards this the County Council gave $100 and the Government a paltry $50, leaving a deficit of $183 to be made up by the town for which no benefit has been received. I think the scheme will receive discussion, and a correspondent elsewhere points out what he considers some objections. We do not agree with his conclusions, but give his views to the public. His arguments can be answered by the advocates of the road without much difficulty.

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Communications.

THE COUNTY MODEL SCHOOL.

[*To the Editor of* THE CANADIAN POST.]

SIR,—While I am heartily in favor of the County Model Schools and freely admit all the advantages claimed for them in your editorial in THE POST of last week, as a ratepayer I must protest against the town being saddled with the expense of a School established for County purposes.

The Teacher's salary for the four months of last year during which the School was in operation was $353. Towards this the County Council gave $100 and the Government a paltry $50, leaving a deficit of $183 to be made up by the town for which no benefit has been received. I think the scheme will receive discussion, and a correspondent elsewhere points out what he considers some objections. We do not agree with his conclusions, but give his views to the public. His arguments can be answered by the advocates of the road without much difficulty.

Kingston *Whig:* "The population of Toronto in 1876 was 67,543; in 1877 it was 70,870, an increase of 3,323 in a single year. An increase of population is generally accepted as an indication of prosperity as a decrease is of decadence and retrogression. How the Queen City, Tory as she is boasted to be, could so advance under Grit rule is and will likely remain an inexplicable mystery. We suppose we must accept it as one of the idiosyncracies, so to speak, of Cartwright rum. This reminds us that Kingston has also made rapid advances lately under the same inauspicious regime of Reform Government, a state of things utterly unknown during the palmy days when her own member in Parliament was Premier of the Dominion."

OUR TORONTO LETTER.

THE DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS. A SHARP CRITICISM TOPICS DISCUSSED. IMPROVEMENT IN MEMBER RAILWAY AID POLICY TORONTO AND OTTAWA RAILWAY THE BOUNDARY QUESTION GOVERNMENT BUSINESS—THE "BUDGET."

[Special correspondence of The Post.]

Toronto, Jan. 5th, 1878.

At half-past twelve this morning the dreariest, dullest, most jejune and therefore the most wearisome debate which ever took place on an Address in reply to a "speech from the throne" came to an end greatly to the relief of the House itself and much more to the relief of the gallery. It is about time that this absurd farce of a long-winded rigmarole, dubbed by courtesy a "debate," should be abolished as it might easily be if the Premier would only give his followers a hint to leave all the talking to the other side. The leader of the House who first has the courage to deal with this nuisance will be hailed as a public benefactor. I do not approve of curtailing freedom of speech but all the talk on the Address is out of place unless there is to be an amendment moved to it by the Opposition. In every Parliament the Speech and and Address are now regarded as parts of the merely formal proceedings incidental to the opening of the session, and why under cover of the motion to pass the latter every member of the House should feel himself at liberty or be allowed the privilege of discussing every question he sees fit to introduce is more than I or any one else can comprehend. The debate on the present occasion occupied the afternoon sitting on Thursday, the afternoon and evening sittings on Friday, and both afternoon and evening sittings last night. The adjournment took place on Friday night at eleven and not till after midnight last night. The length of the debate would be nothing if anything were said worth listening to, but with the exception of half a dozen speeches that were passable the whole time was filled up with a succession of platitudes, bad jokes and betrayals of ignorance, nearly all clothed in the most execrable English. If there is really to be a reformation in this matter it must begin with the Ministry. Let the speech be as short as possible, consistent with decency, and let it be as straightforward as it can be made; let all ministerial explanations be as brief and unpolemical as they can be; and let the Premier discourage by both precept and example the loquacity of his own followers, and the *cuncthes loquendi* will soon subside amongst his opponents.

THE TOPICS DISCUSSED.

I do not propose to run over in this letter all the topics touched upon in the course of the debate, for some of them were hardly more relevant to the matter in hand than a reference to the Eastern question or to the South African Confederation scheme would have been. One member, for instance, discussed the causes of the prevailing commercial depression and the working of the insolvency law. Another thinking the causes were not all specified discussed for a long time the effect of the Dominion tariff on trade and industry. The effect of unemployment and the use of fertilizers, the amount of prominence to which lawyers are entitled in the House and the Cabinet and the amount they enjoy, exemptions from assessment, and "white-washing" measures both here and at Ottawa, with a host of other questions equally far-fetched were labored over hour after hour until the handful of members left had either nothing more to say or were ashamed to take up any longer the time of the House. One of the most important matters brought up was the effect of the revival of prosperity on

THE LUMBER TRADE.

That there has been a partial return of better times no one denies, but the statement in the speech from the throne that the timbering industry has shared to some extent in this revival was challenged by a number of Opposition members, some of whom were not above giving utterance to the absurd suspicion that the statement was put into the speech for the express purpose of helping to bolster up the tottering Dominion Government by trying to persuade the public that times were now so bad as they were called. Had a plea of this sort been left exclusively to members of the cabinet Mr. Flesher or Mr. Bell no one would have felt surprised at its use, but a man of the stamp and ability of Mr. Patterson of Essex, ought to have been above keeping the House listening to such twaddle. The statement in the speech about the lumber trade is a very moderate one. It is to the effect that the home market for lumber has somewhat improved while the foreign market has not, and that the ready sale of limits at good prices to *bona fide* lumbermen was trustworthy evidence of an improvement having taken place in the condition of the industry generally. The correctness of this view was questioned by Mr. Macdougall of Simcoe, by Mr. Scott of Peterboro, by Mr. Deacon of Renfrew, and by several others less capable of forming a trustworthy judgment on the matter. Their arguments and objections were met by the statements of the Commissioner of Crown Lands and of Mr. Miller of Parry Sound, whose ability to form a correct opinion cannot reasonably be doubted. That the improvement is very slight is universally admitted, but that there is an improvement, and that it is one that will go on is equally certain. It would be a mistake, however, for lumberers to get out, on the strength of the change, heavier stocks than they would otherwise have done, and it is on the whole fortunate for the lumberers themselves that the want of snow this winter has hindered production to a considerable extent. Another question on which members had a good deal to say was that of

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