HON. THOS. WHITE.

THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR AT ST. CATHARINES.

His Severe Castigation of Grit Organizer Preston—The Question of the Public Debt—How We Stand With the C.P.R.—Treatment of the Indians—General Topics.

Following is the address delivered by Hon. Thos. White at St. Catharines. The Minister of Interior, who on rising was loudly cheered, said :—

Ladies and Gentlemen,—We have had some considerable time taken up by these personal matters and I hoped that I may therefore bring your attention to public questions in which you are interested. Mr. Preston, who has addressed you, has, it appears to me, and I think you will agree with me, not been very courteous in attacking me on this platform. Well, I know Mr. Preston, and I do not therefore feel much hurt at anything he may say. (Cheers.) Perhaps he will remember the testimony given by a relative of his in the Court House at Ottawa, as to

HIS RELIABILITY ON OATH.

(Cheers). And remembering that as I precisely do remember it I am not disturbed by any thing he may say. I say this, that I think if the gentleman who is now a candidate for your suffrages comes on the platform to discuss public questions, you have a right to expect at his hands courteous and civil treatment of political opponents, and

A FAIR REASONABLE DISCUSSION

of the question which interest you all. I may leave to those who are immediately interested the mere personal controversy as to my friend Mr. Rykert, and as to his political opponent, I may leave to them and to the electors who have to deal with them. But when a stranger comes on a public platform for the purpose of discussing the great issues which are before you, and which have to be decided by you on the 22nd of this month, then we should have a civil discussion of these questions, and I leave it for you to say if Mr. Preston has fulfilled these conditions. (Cries of "no, no.") Now, ladies and gentlemen, there is one personal matter of which I shall speak, before going into general questions, and that is the attack made upon myself. Mr. Preston says certain things were proved before the Committee of Public Accounts at Ottawa, going to show that The Montreal Gazette Printing Company had received large sums of money improperly, and an attempt is made to prejudice the public mind. Now the question of whether the Government may give any printing outside of its parliamentary contracts to friendly newspapers may be a question for public discussion. There is a difference of opinion on that point. But I venture to say that the Liberal party, having the record of five years in office, are hardly in a position to take the ground that this is improper for the Government to do that. We know that one of their first acts when they came into power was to

BUY THE OTTAWA FREE PRESS

for $2,000 so as to change its politics. (Hear, hear.) They induced The Ottawa Free Press, which before that time was a Conservative paper, to change its politics by promises of support which were filled. We know that the Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr. Anglin, was compelled to

RESIGN HIS SEAT

and to withdraw from Parliament because he had received twenty-one or twenty-two thousand dollars for printing, which properly belonged to public contractors. We know that Mr. Vail, Minister of Militia in the Government, had to withdraw because printing was given to a newspaper in Halifax with which he was connected. We know that Mr. Jones, the member for Halifax, who afterwards became Minister of Militia, and who defeated Mr. Vail, had to withdraw also from Parliament, because printing had been given to a newspaper in Halifax in which he had an interest. We know that after they left office a suit was brought by the Parliamentary contractors to recover from the Government of Canada, because of the losses they sustained, of something like $150,000, because of the printing having been given outside of the public contracts. Some $70,000 profit accrued to those interested who were friends of the Government. That was the course of Mackenzie's Government. This may have been a wise course or it may have been an unwise course, but it still remains a fact. Now then, there is a paragraph statement made regarding The Montreal Gazette, and I wish to give you some facts which are based on the

EVIDENCE OF THE QUEEN'S PRINTER,

before the Committee of Public Accounts. The statement is made that The Montreal Gazette Printing Company received a large and disproportionate sum of money for the printing of certain immigration pamphlets. What are the facts? There was one of these pamphlets on British Columbia. The Queen's Printer was requested by the Committee of Public Accounts to make an estimate of what it would have cost under the rates which prevailed while Mr. Mackenzie was in office. What was arrived at for amount charged by The Gazette was $1,0[illegible], while under the Mackenzie Government the cost would have been $1,5[illegible]. (Cheers.) Another pamphlet, "What Farmers Say," $1,491 was paid to The Gazette Printing Company, while under the preceding Government $[illegible] would have been paid. With reference to the emigration pamphlets and geological survey reports, they

WERE NEVER PRINTED

by Parliamentary contract at any time. They were always let outside of Parliamentary contract. Having spoken about this personal matter I now wish to draw your attention to another. Reference has been made by Mr. Preston to the question of Home Rule. Well, it is a rather curious thing that in this country, where the action of Parliament is powerless to give Home Rule to Ireland, that should be a prominent question on an occasion when the politics relative to the Government of Canada are being discussed. Now what has been done by the Parliament of Canada on that question has been already explained to you. In 1882 we passed

A RESPECTFUL ADDRESS,

passed it by a unanimous vote without a dissentient voice, pointing out to the Parliament of Great Britain that in this country we were enjoying a system of local self-government which had utilized to the best interests of this country, and we suggested that the same system in Ireland might bring peace and prosperity to our fellows in Ireland and remove that serious question so much agitated. That was a respectful address. It was sent to England, and as Mr. Rykert pointed out to you, the answer came from Lord Chamberlain, Colonial Secretary in the Government of Gladstone, who was at the head of the Government at that time, to the effect that while her Majesty would always be glad to receive the view of the Parliament of Canada in relation to matters affecting Canada, the Queen must be guided in this matter by

HER IMPERIAL ADVISERS.

This was a snub such as the Parliament of Canada never before received, and such a snub, I venture to think, the Parliament ought never to submit itself to again. Now, what did we do when, during last session, this question came up again? Mr. Blake wanted us to send another address to England. A resolution was passed to this effect:—That we recall to the opinion which we expressed in 1882, but that having regard to the fact that her Majesty's Government at that time had at its head Mr. Gladstone, we did not deem it necessary to do more with the resolution. What was the result? Look at the conduct of the Irish members. Look at the message from Mr. Parnell to Mr. Costigan. Look at the expressions of approval of the Nationalists as to the course taken by Mr. Costigan in the matter, and you have the best proof in the world that the course taken by the Parliament of Canada was a fair and reasonable one, having a like regard to the interests of Ireland and also for the dignity and self-respect of this country, this Canada of our own. (Prolonged cheers.) Now, then, Mr. Preston goes on to say that this Government

HAS BEEN GROSSLY EXTRAVAGANT

and he encores at the idea of any gentleman upon a public platform arguing that the Administration has been an economical Administration. Now, this question of extravagance and economy is, after all, simply a relative term, and when you come to look at what has been done during the last eight years, at the progress this country has been making, at the vast increase in the work of the several Departments, I venture to think you will have a

SUFFICIENTLY COMPREHENSIVE ANSWER

to the general statements of extravagance which have been hurled against us. In 1873 the correspondence of the Department of the Interior, the letters sent and the letters received, numbered about 7,000. In '78 they numbered about 10,000; in '83 they amounted to 109,000. And if you think a business involving a correspondence of 109,000 letters can be carried on at the same price as 10,000 would incur, you have discovered a system, that if you will only patent you will get a handsome figure for from any merchant in the country. (Laughter.) I am going to point out to you something in regard to the Post Office. What has been the result there? Take for instance the matter of the several P. O. but cases at no as illustrating the growth of business. I am not now speaking of the enormous increase of deposits which indicate the prosperity of a country. But I wish simply to call your attention to the increase of business. In 1873 there were 24,000 depositors or nearly 25,000, and in '78 there were 29,300 depositors, a very small increase, only 1,300. In '83 there were 85,778 depositors. (Cheers.) In such a transaction you can realize without my going into an elaborate explanation, now of necessity the cost of that Department had increased. If we were to take the cost of management in the Mackenzie Administration and compare with cost under present Government, we will find we have the favorable side. And I could show you that while we have increased largely no doubt, the cost of the administration of the Post Office, that since Confederation the cost of administering our business has increased nearly $2,000,000 yet the practical result has been that we

HAVE INCREASED OUR RECEIPTS

in a far larger proportion, giving postal facilities thereby to the great North-West, increasing the advantages of the people in a far greater ratio than the increase of expense that has been charged against us. It shows that when we set one thing over against another and get the expenditure of one period, and set that over against the expenditure of another period, we find a clear proof that the country is not being mismanaged by an extravagant Government. Why, gentlemen, take any of your own cases. Any prosperous, well to do merchant in the city of St. Catharines had, perhaps, twenty years ago, an expenditure of $300 or $400. To-day his expenses are $3,000 or $4,000, and no doubt, more than that. Yet, [illegible] because whereas his expenditure five years ago was only $300, and now $3,000, that therefore, he has been guilty of extravagance, and lacked economy? That ought to be the view to take of the expenditures of a growing and prosperous country. Should they go into the details of each department, and examine the business that is done in each department, and then take the cost of management of each department, I will be prepared to show that the Government of to-day is carried on with more economy than during the time Mackenzie was in office. (Cheers.)

THE PUBLIC DEBT.

Mr. Preston says we have enormously increased the public debt, and he told you that probably I would state that we had not greatly increased the debt, and he says that some day we will have to pay the debt. Let us look at this matter. Of course, some day or other, this debt will fall due, but we had an illustration of that in 1885, when thirty millions of the public debt fell due. Sir Leonard Tilley, then Finance Minister, procured a renewal, at a decreased rate of interest, and instead now of paying five per cent. we only pay 4 per cent. (Applause and cheers.) Why do they not deal entirely with the principal of the public debt. As the country grows, and as the North-West fills up the debt will decrease instead of increasing, by the accumulating resources of Canada, just as has been done in the United States. As our credit correspondingly increases the chances are we will be able to renew it at a still further decrease of interest, and we will not be obliged to look forward to the principal of our public debt as a matter to alarm us at all. The interest on the public debt undoubtedly is a matter that does concern us. Let me point out to you a few things in reference to the public debt. In the first place the net debt, as stated by Mr. Blake, is 230 millions. I am speaking of the net public debt. Of this 230 millions no less than 107 millions are provincial debts, which had been assumed at the time they were admitted into the Confederation.

Blake points to the fact that the debt per capita is less in the United States than in Canada, Blake is fond of making this comparison, but he fails to tell the people, so anxious is he in making this comparison, so anxious to prejudice his own country simply in hope that he may endanger the country and thus endanger the Conservative party, that he ignores altogether the fact that the Federal debt in the United States has been incurred simply for federal purposes. The several states have their respective debts which our provinces have not. This fact you should keep in mind when making comparison with the Federal debt of the United States. From the Federal debt of Canada you must deduct the amount which the several debts of the provinces amounted to when they entered Confederation. Deduct the amount of one hundred and seven millions, and we have left one hundred and thirteen millions as the net debt of Canada so far as a real Federal loan is concerned. When making comparisons we should not forget to take into consideration the things by which the United States debt has been incurred, what means have been taken for the preservation of the union of the country. They were willing when their union was in danger, when the standard of secession was raised in the South, they were willing to incur any expense of money or treasure or blood to protect the vitality of the union. They thought only of their country. They were four years in a fratricidal war, during which time they were building up a debt which actually exceeded the debt of Great Britain, incurred through all her wars. The integrity of the union was in danger and they were willing to incur any expense to protect it. Our debt has been incurred in the same way. Our debt has been incurred in preserving the integrity of our country. It has been incurred in building the Intercolonial Railway, uniting the Maritime provinces to old Canada. It has been incurred in building the C. P. R., uniting British Columbia and the North-West territories and Manitoba with the older parts of Canada. It was in the idea of preserving the union I say that the debt was incurred, but not by a waste of blood and treasure, as was done in the United States. We have carried out the idea by building great lines of railway communication, which are developing the wealth of

EVERY PART OF THE WIDE DOMINION.

(Hear, hear and cheers.) We carried out the idea of the union, as we were compelled to carry it out, but not as a mere secondary thing or as a mere geographical expression, but to promote commercial intercourse, free interchange of travel from one end of Canada to the other. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

HOW HAS THIS DEBT BEEN MADE

up, this one hundred and thirteen millions of strictly Federal debt? One hundred and three millions was expended on railways alone, one million and a half was expended in the purchase of the great North-West, four and a half millions in treaties during Sir Richard Cartwright's period, and, remember I am not referring to that for the purpose of dealing with the question of deficits, four and a half millions more were "slaved" to which Sir Richard had to submit, owing to the condition of the credit of the country when he negotiated loans in England. These several items will have made up that 113 millions. We have also carried on works of immense importance in the St. Lawrence, in the communication opened up with the great lakes. People are flocking in and filling up the Dominion from one end to the other. All these great works involve an expenditure of 54 millions. Remember that the whole of that expenditure was during the Conservative period. While Cartwright directed the finances of the country in the Government of Mackenzie, the public debt actually increased nearly 5 millions of dollars more than the expenditure upon the capital account in the country. So we allow $50,000,000 expenditure on these public works onto do of what the increase of the public debt altogether has been. But what is the real burden in this case? It is the interest charged. In 1868, the net interest charge per capita on the people of this country was $1.29. In 1873 the charge was increased to $1.31. In 1878 the interest charge per capita had increased to $1.58, an increase of 27 cents per capita. On the first of July, taking the net debt at $230,000,000, the interest charge would be $1.63. The increase since 1878 being only 5 cents per capita, or 25 cents per family, I ask you whether you would prefer that the Government of Canada had let the construction of the C. P. R., whether you would prefer all those public works which have made Canada what she is to-day, and will make her future for her, or would you prefer that the halting policy of Blake had been adopted and you thereby saving this expenditure of 5 cents per capita, interest charge upon the public debt of the country.

THE C. P. R.

Then Mr. Preston said that we had the C. P. R., but that we had paid for it. Well, gentlemen, we have paid for it, and we did not expect to get it without paying for it. We have paid subsidies which Parliament agreed to give for it. Even Mackenzie was willing to pay as far back as '74. If you will look at the Acts of '74 you will find those passed by Mackenzie. The gentleman says Parliament offered to the Company to build the C. P. R. fifty million acres of land and twenty-nine millions of dollars, and a further sum to be tendered for by the Company to such men as might be agreed on. He says we have spent $100,000,000 upon that railroad. He knows nothing of the kind. We have paid $54,000,000 and we have given $10,000,000 for which we have taken back land at $1.00 per acre, making $65,000,000 paid for the construction of the C. P. R. Ladies and gentlemen has it been worth it? Why what did Mr. Blake say in regard to this road. His alternative policy was to build a line from Port Arthur to Winnipeg and a line from Emerson to Winnipeg to connect with the American system at that end, and then go on by degrees as the place was settled, and let the resources of the country help to build the road. If we had adopted that policy, and it is only by contrast that you can judge of the relative merits of the two parties, in what position would we stand to-day? You can see what a fatal policy theirs would have been. We have had experience in the past in regard to it. At the time of the rebellion, had it not been for this road rebellers would have been for months at the mercy of the halfbreeds and Indians who had risen in revolt. That is one instance of its advantage. You have noticed, I have no doubt, what is passing in the United States in regard to Canada. We are deeply interested in the question of international trade between the United States and Canada. You have seen the proposals made, apparently with the assent of the two great representative bodies the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States, that they shall declare absolute non-intercourse with Canada unless we give up to them on their own terms in the fishery question, utterly in disregard to the treaty of 1818. We have a right to say, and probably we can maintain what we say, that

THE RIGHTS OF CANADA

must be protected. (Cheers.) Our friends on the other side do not take that view. They want the fishery politics, although the right was denied them by the treaty of 1818, and they have passed two Acts under which they authorize the President of the United States to issue a proclamation of absolute non-commercial intercourse between Canada and the United States. If the President should act upon these bills, if the proclamation should be issued, no locomotive or rolling stock of a Canadian railway, no goods produced in Canada could possibly enter the States. An impassable barrier would be between us. They have a right to take that course if they think proper. For one, and I am sure you will agree with me, I would deeply deplore to see such a state of things. But if they take that ground we have nothing to do but submit. As an independent community,

WE CAN NO MORE BE BULLIED

than we can be coerced to surrender rights believed to be ours without adequate compensation. (Cheers.) Suppose we had adopted the policy of Mr. Blake. Suppose to-day we were without that line north of Lake Superior, what would have been our position? Not only would we find ourselves deprived of intercourse with the United States, not only would the edict of non-intercourse apply, but we would find ourselves cut off from commercial intercourse with settlers in our own territory; because as we could only reach them through American channels, and no goods could pass into American territory, we would find ourselves

CUT OFF FROM TRADE

with our own North-West Territories. I visited last fall many of the industries of the country, the sugar refinery at Montreal, the cotton mills at St. Steven, and other interests, and everywhere I found goods being sent to British Columbia, Winnipeg and the North-West, showing the carrying trade to be of immense proportions, but if we had not had that line north of Lake Superior we would find ourselves in a position. When we come to consider the Fishery question in the light of this edict of non-intercourse, we would have been compelled to give up trade with our own people. We have in this instance an illustration of the fact that no matter what the cost is, no matter how serious the burden, no independent community like the people of Canada cannot afford to be dependent upon the people of a foreign country for access to the different parts of its own dominions. (Cheers). This is a true illustration of the wisdom of the policy which we have adopted and the sheer folly,

THE FATAL POLICY

which Mr. Blake was pressing. So then, gentlemen, when Mr. Preston tells us we have the C.P.R. and that we have paid for it, we answer, we have paid for it, but we have paid less for it than Mr. Mackenzie was willing to pay for it. When you talk of the burdens of taxation, with reference to our debt, it is well to look at the advantages we have derived from it. Why if you will take the freight and passengers carried upon the C.P.R. and apply the freight and passengers which prevailed in '78, just ten years ago, you will find, gentlemen, that we are actually in consequence of that railway policy, that policy of the development of the country, saving to the people of Canada no less that $12,000,000 a year, or fifty per cent. more than the interest upon the public debt of Canada. (Hear, hear, loud and hearty cheering). Then Mr. Preston talks about the affairs in the North-West.

Mr. White dealt with the halfbreed question at length, going over the history of the rebellion, but as it has been already reported on this subject his words will not be repeated. He fully disposed of every assertion made by the Grit organizer. Proceeding, Mr. Whitewild :—

THE HALFBREED QUESTION.

Mr. Preston grew very eloquent over the importance of sending Christian men as agents to deal with the Indians in the North-West. I concur in every word he said, regarding the importance of our having good Indian agents. No doubt then about that point, but the inference which he desires to leave upon your minds is that the agents are not good Christian men. Why, only the other day the agent of the Blackfeet Indians, who has been agent for some time, was considered good enough to become the husband of the daughter of the Rev. John McDougall, one of the most advanced of Christian men. Then we have the letter from the Rev. John McLeod, in which he states that the Indians are well treated and that the agents are respectable and well qualified men. (Cheers.) Mr. Preston talks about our having given $800,000 for officers' services and things of that kind, and only $40,000 to feed the Indians. He ought to remember that the $800,000 was to a great extent taken up in response to applications. Every Indian in the North-West is entitled to a blanket and $5. This applies to each member of a family and to the chief $10, and money is to be given them every year at the annual meeting for agricultural implements. And the $800,000, out of which $5 to every man, woman and child in the North-West, and $10 to the chiefs, is a great trouble to Mr. Preston. Now, we had no obligation under the treaty to feed the Indians at all, and the $40,000 which he admits has gone to feed the Indians, was given only through

HUMANE REASONS,

because of the disappearance of the buffalo. It was deemed the duty of the Government to see that they received food even at the cost of the people of Canada for the time being, at any rate that is the policy adopted in regard to the Indians of the North-West. Now I will tell you what has been done. Letters have been sent to those who have been making charges, and speaking now of clergymen, letters have been sent to them asking them to give some specific instances wherein the Government has been derelict, and not one specific charge has been given by any single one of them. (Hear, hear and cheers.) I may verily be said that we expect more than general statements, and mind when I say that I am not referring to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, but not one single person has [illegible] to present me a single specific instance of wrong doing on the part of the Government. Now we are charged with using the resources of the North West for our own special friends and for the purpose of

BRIBING MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

to support us. Take the case referred to, the timber on the Cypress islands. Has Mr. Preston ventured to say that the gentleman, Mr. Adams, got that timber limit upon any other conditions than those which were embodied in the Regulations? Until these people can point out a case, I have thrown out the challenge everywhere, thrown it out in Parliament, and I have not had a single instance of anyone

ATTEMPTING TO MEET THE CHALLENGE.

Until they can point out a Conservative in or out of Parliament who has received from the Government a timber limit or grazing lease, or coal area, a part in a Colonization Company, on any other terms than those embodied in the Regulations. Until this can be shown, I say they have no right to charge us with having given the licenses to our friends in Parliament. (Cheers, and "hear, hear.") Mr. Rykert has pointed out to you the regulations in reference to twenty one year leases. A law was passed in 1872 by Sir John Macdonald's Government to bear upon the point. Each person who has got a license was compelled within a certain time to put up a mill. In 1874, the very first session Mackenzie came into office he changed that law as Mr. Rykert has pointed out, and under the change granted a limit to Messrs. H. H. Cook and Sutherland, two

POLITICAL FRIENDS OF THEIRS,

and they had had it without erecting a mill or doing any work upon it. (Cheers.) On the 17th October, 1878, three weeks after they had been defeated by the people and had no right to deal with the public domain, they passed an Order in Council granting 200 square miles. In 1879 an act was passed restoring the law of 1872 requiring that the 21 year leases could be obtained only by public competition, and that the person getting it was to put up a mill within a time specified; and no single 21 year lease was ever given by Sir John Macdonald without public competition. In reference to the C. P. R., Mr. Preston says that we promised at the last session of Parliament that the country would settle up and we would get our pay out of the lands of the North-West for the subsidies given to the C. P. R. Yes, that was the promise. The statement was made that enough advantages would be derived from the settlement of the North-West to compensate for the whole amount given as subsidies in the construction of the C. P. R. But whoever dreamed, what sensible men would suppose, that that vast country would be filled up in a few years? The country is being filled up. Last year there was a greater number of settlers than any year before. This year we have received information from England and Germany to the effect that a large number still will come in next year, and so by the process of development as a result of the construction of the C. P. R., we will be able to verify our promise that the country will be filled up, and that the settlement of the North-West will compensate for the expenditure which has been made upon it. (Hear, hear.) It is simply

AN INSULT TO A PUBLIC AUDIENCE

to say that because within one year of the completion of the railway the country is not filled up, that therefore the promises made in this respect have not been fulfilled. I have felt it necessary to discuss these points before you, because I think they deserve your consideration. In 1878 the Conservatives came into power, as you know, because the people trusted them on the subject of the National Policy. In 1882 the people continued their support of that Government. They believed that the N. P. had up to that time been a success, and that the Canadian Government should continue in power to further carry it out. Now what is the position we find ourselves in? Why, you know, gentlemen, that our political opponents for eight years declared we were ruining the country by this National Policy, that the protection was a burden upon the people. They said it was a system of legalized robbery, by which greedy manufacturers grew rich at the expense of the masses of the people. But we find that the policy of the Opposition has changed, and Blake in his Malvern speech tried to convince the people they had nothing to fear if he came into office, and that the country will be safe and the manufacturer will not be alarmed. (Laughter.) Now I do not think that Blake will come into power. I believe he will be simply wiped out of

POLITICAL EXISTENCE.

(Loud cheers and laughter.) It is a curious thing to find Blake take this position, because, as you well know, he has for a long time past declared himself an earnest Free Trader. The Montreal Witness, which professes to be an independent paper, but my experience for many years in regard to it has been to find it leaning to the Grit interest, says it is happy to find that Blake has turned to a protectionist. Why as to the efficiency of protection, take the case of cotton. If you will take the estimates, you will find that in 1878, under a revenue tariff, we imported twelve and one-half million yards of bleached and unbleached cotton. Last year under a protective policy, we imported one and-a-half million yards, the rest was manufactured in the country, giving employment to a great number, building up towns and cities in different parts of the country. But under the 17½ per cent. tariff if that tariff had been continued, these great industries would not have sprung up in the country. Again, take the question of sugar; if you take the price of sugar in England to-day, and if you add to that price 28 cents per hundred pounds for transfer, you will have the cost under the Cartwright tariff, and then if you compare that price with the price of refined sugar to-day, you will find it immensely in favor of the present system. So you see that Mr. Blake can get his revenue without adopting the policy of protecting the industries of the country. It is for you to show on the 22nd of this month whether you desire to continue that policy which has done so much to build up the country, and I express to you my earnest hope if you believe in that policy, if you think it has been of advantage to Canada, you will, early on the morning of the 22nd, cast your votes for my good friend and young, Mr. Rykert, and when you have cast your own votes, see that every vote which can be polled is polled, and when you go home you will be able to say you have done your duty, and I have no doubt the verdict which you are to give him will be a favorable one and will be the verdict of a large majority of the constituencies of this Dominion, and Sir John Macdonald will govern this country for the next five years. (Prolonged applause.)

A resolution was put and seconded, that a vote of thanks be tendered the Minister of the Interior for his able address, which was carried with great enthusiasm. Cheers were given for the Queen, Hon. Thos. White, Mr. Rykert, and the Chairman.

MORE HARD NUTS FOR GOOD GRITS.

Will The Globe please study and reply to the following facts. Take the failures in Canada :—

Year.	Number.	Amount.
1879	1,902	$29,347,000
1886	1,252	10,357,000

In 1873 there were 56,347 traders in Canada.

In 1886 there were 72,680 traders in Canada.

When times are bad people do not insure to such an extent as in prosperous times. They drop their insurance because they have not got the money. The record stands :

Life Insurance.	
1879	$11,354,224
1885	27,164,935
Fire Insurance.	
1879	$407,357,985
1885	611,904,479

Take the postoffice and Government savings banks deposits, to mark the earnings of the people :—

1878	Free Trade	$ 8,497,013
1886	National Policy	38,154,680

Take the deposits in the regular chartered banks :—

1878	Grit	$ 66,216,964
1886	Conservative	103,797,818

Take the deposits with building societies and loan companies :—

1878	$ 8,289,295
1885	15,435,084

These are a few hard nuts for good Grits to study over on a wet Sunday.

VAGUE AND pointless charges of corruption continue to be made by Grit speakers and journalists who are unable to criticise the Conservative policy or to name one of their own. The Ottawa Free Press vapors about a gang of boodlers alleged to be operating the capital. Corrupt practices, it says, have been traced, and so on. Now, does The Press imagine its readers are imbecile, or has it become so accustomed to lying that the habit is now uncontrollable? If that Grit mouthpiece were able to do so, we imagine it would give names.

SIR RICHARD Cartwright does not appear to fall into line with his chief on the tariff question. Indeed, it is difficult to see how he can. Speaking at Fergus on Tuesday night Sir Richard insisted that we must have Free Trade or annexation would certainly follow. His actual words, as reported in The Globe, were: "He insisted that the farmers of Canada must have free commercial relations with the United States if they expect to increase their shattered incomes, and the people of the Maritime Provinces should be granted the same freedom, otherwise secession would be the result."

THE GLOBE admits that in 1880 there were 49,928 industrial establishments in the country. And yet of this number, close on fifty thousand—to say nothing of the additions since then—only nineteen were represented on the precious document expressing the confidence of the manufacturers in Mr. Blake's policy. The Globe must be mighty hard up for points to make all the pother it did about the opinions of one manufacturer in every 2,627. By the way, there was one industry—that one in which the late lamented Mr. Anglin was so fatally successful—which was represented on the address to Mr. Blake—unless, indeed, the document was drawn up in The Globe office.

ONE SLICE OF BOODLE.

There was nothing mean about the Mackenzie Government in the matter of looking after its friends. Here is an example. It has been referred to before, but will bear repetition. Mr. Herman Henry Cook, a strong supporter of the Mackenzie Administration from 1874 to 1878 was defeated by Mr. Dalton McCarthy at the general elections of the latter year. Rumor hath it that he "came down handsomely," that he "mesmerized them in batches," and used all the "human devices" peculiar to Grit candidates, but it was no use. Public opinion had been too thoroughly aroused, and Herman Henry went down in the general slaughter. But he had "done the right thing" by the party, and the party had to "do the right thing" by him. The Government was beaten on 17th September, 1878. On 4th October Hon. David Mills, then Minister of the Interior, reported to Council in favor of granting 200 square miles of timber limits on the Saskatchewan River, in blocks of twenty square miles, to Herman Henry Cook and Hugh Sutherland, without competition, and the nominal bonus of $15 per square mile. Three years were given in which to select the lands, and, practically, the whole timber country in the North-West was given them to pick from, as there was no reservation, except that there was to be no interference with the lands set apart for the Canadian Pacific Railway. On the 7th October this Order-in-Council was passed, and the next day the Mackenzie Government, which had been hanging on to office for nearly a month after it had been beaten, resigned. In order that there may be no doubt about this "Boodle" transaction we append beneath a copy of the Order-in-Council making the grant.

Copy of a Report of a Committee of the Hon. the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor-General in Council, on the 7th October, 1878.

On a memorandum, dated 4th October, 1878, from the Honorable the Minister of the Interior, representing that being of opinion that it would encourage and facilitate settlement in the Valley of the Saskatchewan if facilities were afforded for obtaining lumber at a reasonable price, which he learns cannot be done at the present time, he recommends that a timber limit to the extent of two hundred square miles, on the Saskatchewan river and its tributaries in the North West Territories, be granted to Messrs. Cook & Sutherland, the same to be selected by them in blocks of not less than twenty square miles, the bonus payable on the said limit to be at the rate of fifteen dollars per square mile.

And further recommending that the applicants shall have a period of three years within which to make selections of [illegible] with any lands which may be set apart for the Canadian Pacific railway, or for Reserves for Indians, or with school lands, or with any other timber limits which may have been previously granted or which may be hereafter granted and selected prior to the selection by said Cook and Sutherland, and shall in all respects be subject to the conditions contained in the provisions of the Dominion Lands Act.

The committee submit the foregoing recommendations for Your Excellency's approval.

Certified,

(Signed)

W. A. HIMSWORTH, C.P.P.

To the Hon. the Minister of the Interior.

AN IMPORTANT DECLARATION.

Let us see what the Free Trade friends of Messrs. Blake and Cartwright have to say on the other side of the line.

The Hon. Frank H. Hurd, one of the apostles of Free Trade in the United States thus discoursed recently before the State Board of Agriculture of New Jersey. "I remember the time when this country shipped millions of bushels of grain annually to Canada. Firms in the city where I live, grew rich out of the traffic. Now that trade is stopped, and little or nothing of our farm products goes to Canada. This is because of a duty of 25 cents a bushel on American wheat, imposed, and defended upon the doctrine of retaliation alone."

Let the farmers of Canada note carefully this remarkable utterance of a representative free trader, and consider well how vital it is to their interests that the men who so ably initiated the National Policy, and to whom the duty of carrying it out has been already entrusted, shall be sustained at the polls.

A GREAT STRETCHER.

Under the caption of "a new view of the public debt,"—and a decidedly new view it was—The Globe yesterday told probably the most colossal, monumental, petrifying lie of this campaign. It said the public debt was in 1878, $75,726,000, that it now is over $220,000,000, and that "for nearly every dollar of this increase the Tories are responsible."

The Globe states that in 1878 the net debt was $75,000,000. In his budget speech of 1877 Sir Richard Cartwright placed the net debt at $133,000,000, and in 1878 it was actually $151,000,000. The Globe must be crazy, absolutely raving mad to tell such a monstrous lie on such a subject.

The second lie—that the Conservative Government is responsible for nearly every dollar of this increase—is quite as bad.

From 1874 to 1878, five years, the Grits increased the debt $40,200,000.

From 1868 to 1873, and from 1879 to 1886, fifteen years, the Conservatives increased the debt $72,800,000.

Average increase per year under Grit rule, $8,000,000.

Average increase per year under Conservative rule $4,800,000.

The Globe lies recklessly and senselessly.

THE DEBTS COMPARED.

1878.	1887.
GRIT RULE.	CONSERVATIVE RULE.
Average increase of debt per annum $8,000,000.	Average increase of debt per annum. $4,800,000
Deficits under Grit rule. $1,500,000.	Surplus under Conservative rule $19,500,000

A NEW BAROMETER.

The National Policy has been tested in good times and in poor times. It is even better for periods of world wide depression than for periods of general prosperity.

The business of the country needed last autumn more bank and Dominion notes for daily use than at any other time in the history of the country.

It required more discounts from the banks to carry on the growing trade of the autumn months than ever before in the country's history.

The deposits in the banks, chartered and savings banks, were greater during the autumn months of 1886 than ever before known.

The overdue notes and debts at the end of December had become less in amount than ever before known.

THE BANK BAROMETER.

Note circulation required :—

October, 1873	$25,200,000
October, 1886	41,400,000
Increased amount needed!	$16,200,000

Everybody benefited by general business activity.

Discounts required for business transactions average two months, September and October :—

1878	$131,670,000
1886	167,380,000
Increase in 1886	$ 35,710,000

Business men and banks benefited.

Deposits in the Banks Savings of the people average two months, September and October :—

1878	$ 66,216,000
1886	103,798,000
Increase in 1886	$ 37,582,000

The laboring man benefited by being able to lay by money for "a rainy day."

Over due notes and debts November,

1878	$ 6,314,000
[illegible]	2,666,000
Decrease showing greater ability to pay	$ 3,648,000

Not the old worry; scurrying round to raise money to meet notes and after all being unable to get the needful.

Import of grains off all kinds and flour for home consumption.

During 7 years to 1879, bushels	65,400,732
" " " to 1886, "	30,052,770
Decrease under the N. P. "	35,353,962

The farmer benefited by having the home market and more mouths to feed.

Coal trade, coal sales by Nova Scotian mines :—

1878	983,251 tons
1886	1,480,000 "
Increase in 1886	736,000 "

Giving a living for 23,000 persons who before the N. P. were struggling outcasts precarious existence.

How the present Government treated the trade.

Duty on tea, coffee and coal in 1885 would have been

Under the Cartwright tariff	$1,118,853
Actually was under the N. P.	1,118,064
Increase under N. P.	51

And the Grits objects.

RAILWAY BAROMETER.

Freight Carried.

1878	7,883,472
1885	14,659,271
Increase showing greater internal trade done	6,774,000

Railway men benefited. More work for the railways.

Passengers carried.

1878	6,448,928
1885	9,672,559
Increase of passenger traffic under the N. P.	3,223,000

Earnings of Railways.

1878	$97,520,000
1885	92,227,500
Increase earnings under the N. P.	$14,707,500

The Railway Corporations doing better.

Water Borne Goods, by Ocean, Lake and Coasting Vessels.

1878	14,623,835 tons freight
1885	16,835,648 "
Increase of Water Borne Freight under the N. P.	2,200,000 "

Sailors, coasters, canal men, etc., doing better.

Miles of railways in operation and under construction :

1878	7,926 miles
1885	11,589 "
Increase	3,683 "

Giving work to the navvy and laboring men generally in construction, while mechanics have had work provided in station houses needed, locomotives, cars and the other thousand and one things needed by railways. Hundreds of young men have found permanent employment on railways.

Credit of Canada :—

1878—Canada obtains money at $91 for the $100 bond.

1885—Canada obtains money at $105.25 for the $100 bond.

1878—Canadian bonds selling on open market at 94 per cent.

1886—Canadian bonds selling on open market at 107 per cent.

Moneyed men abroad appreciate Canada's effort to develope her resources. The debt does not scare them.