

erly opposed putting an embargo on the export of logs from Ontario. The Globe had estimated the saving to Canadian railways, vessel owners and workmen from the enactment of the manufacturing clause at \$580,000. Had that law gone into force in 1894 the total gain would have been fully \$2,500,000.

Dealing with the finances of the Province, Mr. Marter did not care what the experts would report. He had formed his own opinion as to the facts. Mr. Marter exhibited a leaf taken from a Liberal campaign pamphlet, wherein a surplus of \$5,597,128 was claimed, and said if any gentleman on the Government side could show the statement was true the speaker would resign his seat. The commission were instructed to ascertain some facts which had never been disputed, and it was a waste of money to make inquiries that were needless. He believed those on the commission would give the facts asked for by the Government, but it would not settle any point in dispute.

Mr. Ross—Wait until you see.

Mr. Marter—I am hazarding this. I may be wrong, but I will take the risk. Do you expect the commission to go outside their instructions?

Mr. Ross—I say that if they will act according to their instructions they will give us a very valuable report. I am willing to wait until the report is laid on the table, to judge of its merits, and my hon. friend cannot wait.

Mr. Marter launched into the old question of the Sandfield Macdonald surplus, and compared the finances of that Government with the receipts and expenditure under the Liberal regime. The Liberal Government, he charged, had spent \$3,364,127 more than they received, had dissipated \$31,000,000 of the capital of the Province, had run behind at the rate of \$112,767, and a deficit now existed of \$364,766.

The Corruption.

Mr. Marter discussed the election irregularities, and complained that the scope of the West Elgin Commission was too narrow. Inquiry was limited to the conduct of the returning officer, deputy returning officers and poll clerks, and the real culprits would never be reached. Mr. Marter reminded the House that the Premier himself had once been unseated for bribery by agents. The Government were interested in screening the guilty parties, because they had profited by the transactions. If the Government wanted the matter cleared up they would not have denied Mr. Macdiarmid representation by counsel before the West Elgin Commission. Mr. Marter said if the Government were in earnest they would first dismiss Messrs. Smith and Vance.

Mr. Stratton—What about Birmingham and Nevitt?

Mr. Marter—If Mr. Birmingham does such things we will get rid of him.

Mr. Stratton challenged the speaker to show what Mr. Vance and Captain Sullivan had done.

Mr. Marter said Capt. Sullivan was reported by the Judges.

Mr. Stratton—He was tried and acquitted by the same Judges.

Mr. Marter maintained that these men did not take part in the election on their own wishes, but did so at the instance of the Government. The Government should resign in a body on account of the election revelations. Mr. Marter reviewed some of the occurrences in West Elgin and declared them to be unparalleled. Mr. Macdiarmid and his friends were thwarted at every turn, in their efforts to obtain justice, by the Crown Attorney and the Police Magistrate. He avowed himself ready to assist in putting down corruption, and made a number of suggestions in regard to the conduct of elections. One was that a Minister or candidate should be debarred from intimating that the election of any candidate will result in obtaining Government favors for a constituency.

Mr. Pattullo.

Mr. Pattullo (North Oxford) said that if there had ever been any doubt as to the capability of the new Premier of filling the position admirably it must be at once dispelled by the speech he had delivered the day before. He regarded the compliment paid by the leader of the Opposition to Mr. Speaker as a hopeful sign of the more tolerant attitude of the Conservative party towards the race to which Mr. Speaker belonged. Mr. Whitney had been rather late in appreciating the work of Hon. Mr. Hardy, and he would like to assure the present Premier that when he retired from his position he, too, would be the recipient of like tributes from the gentlemen of the Opposition. Coming to a consideration of the finances, Mr. Pattullo pointed out that while Mr. Whitney had admitted there was a surplus of two million dollars, Mr. Marter had argued that there was a deficit of about \$300,000. The members of the Opposition, if they were confident of their contention, would have welcomed the commission as a means of confirming their view regarding the financial situation. Whether the report of the commission was in favor of or against the Government, he as a supporter of the Government would willingly accept its finding. Mr. Whitney had quoted extensively from The Weekly Sun, from the writings of Mr. Goldwin Smith. Mr. Pattullo regarded Mr. Goldwin Smith as an extremely unsafe guide for public opinion in this country, and ventured the opinion that Mr. Whitney would not quote his opinion on the British-Boer war at the present time. (Ministerial applause.) While Mr. Whitney quoted from Mr. Goldwin Smith, one of his most pleased hearers was Mr. Sol White, an annexationist, who had just been nominated as a candidate of the party which was trying to drive Mr. Tarte, one of the ablest public men in Canada, from his position as a Cabinet Minister. (Ministerial applause.)

The Nickel Policy.

In regard to the nickel policy, Mr. Pattullo said that until he had heard the subject fully discussed he would not say that it was one that he could entirely approve. He did not believe the question of nickel was absolutely analogous to pulpwood and timber. Mr. was a business proposition. Mr.