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NOT PARTY, BUT THE PEOPLE.

# THE BYSTANDER.

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APRIL, 1880.

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SIR LEONARD TILLEY'S financial statement has been received both in Parliament and by the Press with a volley of rhetorical projectiles which lay ready stored in the arsenal of the Opposition: the fire has been returned with spirit by the Ministerialists; and in the fury of the fray, it is scarcely possible to make out the real opinion of the speakers and writers on either side about the facts, though their feelings towards the persons cannot be mistaken. "When," says the organ of a Senator of the Dominion, "he requested the late Finance Minister to write a novel, Sir Charles Tupper was good enough to supply in his own person a remarkable character for the proposed work. An accurate description of the Doctor would insure the rapid sale of the book. Critics, unacquainted with the career of Sir Charles, might object that the union of his qualities in one character made too great a demand on the credulity of the readers of fiction. Others might say that the human face (*sic*) was maligned by depicting such a person. They would assert that in no civilized country could morality be so low as to permit the continuance in public life of a man guilty in such a transaction as that of the Springhill coal mine." In the name of common sense, what reader would pay any attention to the financial statements and reasonings of writers who approach the subject in such a temper as this?