

more and more sensitive, that enterprise should be checked, that industrial expansion should go on slowly, and that the demand for labor should be fluctuating and unsatisfactory.

With the incoming of the Liberals and the introduction of the new tariff a great change spread over the country. Confidence succeeded to uncertainty. Capital flowed in from abroad. Activity began in every branch of trade. The wheels of commerce moved with a new impetus. Better times than Canada had ever known came. Wages increased. Prosperity and progress were everywhere evident. The Dominion assumed a new and attractive status in the eyes of the world.

### TORY PROPHECIES.

Every elector who can recall events between 1878 and 1896 will be familiar with the forecasts of calamity and woe which Conservatives and their press constantly presented to the people. If the Liberals should be placed in power it was said that Canada would go to the dogs. Going no further back than 1896, here are a few of the prophecies which appeared in the columns of the Montreal "Star," which in that year became the chief mouthpiece of Conservative opinion in Canada :—

"Wages of all operatives will fall."

"The money in circulation all over Canada will shrink until scarcity of money will be a national cry."

"Employers of labor would be driven to increase the length of the working hours to compensate for the loss of trade."

"Americans, Germans and Swiss will immediately invade the Dominion as a slaughter market, and when the factories and shops have been destroyed and Canadian mechanics driven from the country, will put up the prices of all imported goods, with the certain result of increased expense to every family."

"Work for all wage-earners will grow scarcer and scarcer every month, until the whole character of the industrial life in Canada will have been changed, with corresponding depression throughout the country."

"All bank and joint stock companies' shares will suffer continuous impairment."

"All railway and steamboat companies will be affected by the vastly reduced number of passengers."

"It will take twenty years, even with the abolition of the condemned revenue tariff, to climb again to the post where Canada stands