

REASONS WHY THE GOVERNMENT MUST GO.

There may possibly be remaining in this House a few who are not yet convinced that the Government is not entitled to the confidence of the Canadian people, and I shall therefore put on record a few reasons why the protectionist party is no longer entitled to the confidence of the electors of Canada.

1.—Because it has increased the net public debt from \$140,362,009 in 1878 to \$253,074,927 in 1895, an increase of \$112,712,858, an average annual increase of \$6,630,168.

2.—Because it has increased the expenditure, aside from capital expenditure, from \$23,503,158 in 1878 to \$38,132,095 in 1895, a difference of \$14,628,847.

3.—Because in the face of falling revenue, hard times, and a deficit for 1893-94 of over \$1,200,000, it appropriated in the session of 1894 over \$4,000,000 for railway subsidies, the object of the grants in the majority of cases being to give aid to its candidates in the coming elections.

4.—Because it has squandered the public lands in the North-west by lavish and unnecessary grants to railway corporations, having granted in this way up to April last 44,242,298 acres, which is twice the quantity of land at present under cultivation in the Dominion.

5.—Because it has squandered public moneys in worthless investments made to serve the purposes of friends, such as the Tay Canal, which cost \$476,128 and last year yielded revenue to the amount of \$136.

6.—Because it has superannuated civil servants in the prime of life to make places for its own retainers, and has brought the superannuation service to that point when the receipts last year were \$63,274, and the payments \$265,385.

7.—Because it has copied the worst features of American political rascality in the infamous Gerry-mander Act of 1882.

8.—Because by the "Franchise Act of 1885" it ceased to permit the provincial lists to be used for Dominion elections, and adopted an expensive partisan scheme for making Dominion lists, with power to perpetrate gross outrages; and has given the country but one revision on an average each three years, costing in each instance over \$250,000, besides the vast expense in money and time the people are put to simply to secure the most cherished right of a British subject—the right to vote.

9.—Because it went to the country at the last general election under false pretenses, professing to be on the point of securing a reciprocity treaty with the United States, when no negotiations were in progress and no prospect of securing such a treaty existed.

10.—Because it has distributed 25,000 square miles of timber limits among its friends and supporters regardless of value and without consideration.

11.—Because it has utterly destroyed the independence of Parliament and secured the support of a slavish majority by gifts to members and their friends of timber limits, railway subsidies and other favours.

12.—Because it makes no attempt to secure purity of administration, but on the contrary is governing the country by the most shameless and corrupt methods.

13.—Because it is not an economical Government but is responsible for a system of extravagance and waste in every department.

14.—Because, when the country is staggering under a burden of debt and taxation, no effort is made to reduce the debt or diminish the expenditure.

15.—Because the tariff is not adjusted for the purpose of securing the revenue necessary for the economical administration of public affairs in the easiest way for the people, but on the contrary is made the weapon of rings and combines through the operation of which they exclude foreign goods and secure the power to charge exorbitant prices for their own wares.

16.—Because the promises made on behalf of the National Policy were foundationless and false. It has neither checked the exodus, nor given a home market for our farm products, nor increased the price of such products, nor secured prosperity for the country.

17.—Because the extravagance of the Government obliged the country to face a deficit of over \$1,210,000 in 1893-94, followed by the largest deficit save one since confederation, namely, \$4,153,875 for the year 1894-95.

18.—Because the buried secrets of peculations, frauds and maladministration in the various departments should be exposed to the light of day, and the accounts and records should be investigated by men who are not interested in concealing facts.

19.—Because Canada is nearly at a standstill and her people are disheartened. Her present rulers are incompetent, and their policy worse than a failure. We want new men, new methods, and the policy of the Liberals.

20.—Because parliamentary inquiry into grave charges made against members of the Government in the Caron case was refused, the character and allegations of said charges changed by the Government to suit its own purpose, and the emasculated indictment thus prepared referred to a commission chosen by itself before which acquittal was foreordained.

21.—Because their policy has led to the scheduling of Canadian cattle in Great Britain and the quarantining of Canadian cattle in the United States.

It would be well for Canada if the electors will consider carefully these reasons, and when the time comes, prove their love for their suffering country and mark their ballots against the protectionist candidates.

HON. EDWARD BLAKE'S LETTER.

Hon. gentlemen opposite have often quoted certain passages from a celebrated letter by the Hon. Edward Blake to the electors of West Durham. Let me read a few other passages from the same letter:

The Canadian Conservative policy has failed to accomplish the predictions of its promoters.

Its real tendency has been, as foretold twelve years ago, towards disintegration and annexation, instead of consolidation and the maintenance of that British connection of which they claim to be the special guardians.

It has left us with a small population, a scanty immigration and a North-west empty still; with enormous additions to our public debt and yearly charge, an extravagant system of expenditure, and an unjust and oppressive tariff; with limited markets for our needs, whether to buy or to sell, and all the host of evils (greatly intensified by our special condition) thence arising; with trade diverted from its natural into forced, and, there-