THE BUDGET DEBATE.

Mr. Foster Arraigns His Successor's Statement of Financial Position and Policy.

Contrasted With the Performances in Office.

(From the Montreal Gazette.)

Ottawa, April12.—It is to be regretted that the attendance both on the floor and in the galleries have not been large at either the afternoon or evening sessions of the house, as the very able speeches of Mr. Foster and Sir Charles Tupper deserved a much larger audience. What was lacking in number, however, was more than made up by the enthusiasm with which the two magnificent speeches of the two leaders of the Conservative party were greeted. Mr. Foster had by no means fully recovered from his recent indisposition, and although the matter of his able and eloquent address, which Sir Charles Tupper subsequently referred to as one of the most masterly orations he had ever listened to, was quite equal to any previous review of a budget speech he had ever made, his physical weakness was very apparent, and the exertion of speaking for two hours and a half was so wearying to him that he was not able to be in the house to-night. On the other hand, the force and vigor of Sir Charles Tupper was as phenomenal as it has ever been since his wonderful campaign speech of 1896, and he finished one of the most powerful and exhaustive speeches, of three hours' duration, in which he fully and completely met and answered every argument made by Sir Richard Cartwright, without any more appearance of exhaustion or fatigue than if he had been sitting at his own fire side enjoying a quiet perusal of his favorite newspaper. Sir Charles was every whit as fresh, as vigorous, as combative, as eloquent, as argumentative, and forceful as he was mre than a quarter of a century ago when he won the soubriquet of "the war horse of Cumberland," and the unanimous verdict of all who heard him to-night was that such an exhibition of mental and physical vigor by a man has seldom, if ever, had its equal in either Imperial or colonial statesmanship.

MR. FOSTER'S SPEECH.

Mr. Foster, who was received with Conservative cheers, began his speech by thanking the government for the consideration shown to him in the adjournment of the debate owing to his indisposition. He smilingly expressed the hope that he would be able to extend the same consideration to Mr. Fielding on some future occasion. He agreed with the finance minister's congratulations as to the condition and progress of the country, but denied that this resulted in any way from the policy of the government. He contrasted Mr. Fielding's forecast of last year with hi sown, and said he was quite willing to allow time to be the arbiter between them. As to the loan he was proud of the position Canada had taken in the money markets of the world, but did not see that Mr. Fielding was entitled to any special credit in connection with the matter. The net cost of this loan was seven twenty-fourths of one per cent. less than that of 1888. But that of 1888 was twenty-twenty-fourths less than the preceding loan, so that the gain at this reduction of interest was less than it had been before.

SAVINGS BANK INTEREST.

Dealing with the reduction of interest on savings bank deposits Mr. Foster said he agreed with the policy of reduction from 3½ to 3, but not with that from 3 to 2½. In his opinion it was a wise and prudent policy fr the government to pay to lenders inside the country as good and a little better interest than they paid to outsiders. (Hear, hear.) The lowest rate paid to London money lenders was 2⅝ per cent., and some of the rates on loans with some years to run was much higher. The rate paid to people in the country who lent the government money would be at least ¾ per cent. less than the lowest rate paid to outsiders. He did not see how this could be justified. He denied Mr. Fielding's statement that the main object of savings banks was to give a place of security for deposits; the banking system of Canadad had already provided that. The object of the savings banks was to encourage habits of thrift and economy among people whose margin between income and necessary expenditure was not sufficient to enable them to make permanent investments. The stability of France and the wonderful progress and prosperity of its peasant class was largely due to its encouragement by the government in hibcouragement by the government in habits of economy and thrift and their investments in government securities. Mr. Fielding had made a mistake in reducing the savings bank rate a single fraction below what the government paid in London or the other money markets of the world.

A PERTINENT QUERY.

By the reduction of the government, in 1898-9, would have half a million dollars, but was that to be given back to the country? Were the estimates cut down by that amount or was the taxation reduced? The country had been given no relief, "I want to know," Mr. Foster went on to say, "whether the minister of finance felt he could congratulate the house and the country upon the policy f the government as shown in its administration of the finances for the year 1896-97? Hon. gentlemen opposite must expect, as long as they get their seats on promises which they first evade, then violate, and then repudiate, that they must have this state of things brought to their mind—not, I am candid to say, because I believe it will have any effect upon the gentlemen themselves (Opposition hear, hears), but because I know and believe that the heart of the country requires a standard of public faith which these gentlemen, if they ignore, will have to reckon with the body of the electorate by and bye, when they come to meet them face to face." (Opposition applause.)

Mr. Foster then recalled the promises of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Hon. David Mills and other Liberal leaders, when in opposition to reduce the public expenditure by from one to two and three and even five millions of dollars, as well as Sir Richard Cartwright's declaration towards the close of the regime of the late government, to the effect that an expenditure of $38,300,000 annually for federal purposes was monstrous and unjustifiable?

THE DEBT INCREASE.

How, he asked, had the Liberals fulfilled their pledges to reduce the expenditure and the debt? From 1890 to 1896, under Conservative rule, the debt of the country increased on the average $2,652,900 per year. In the last year of their administration the increase was $3,028,000. In 1896-97, during the first year of Liberal administration, the increase amounted to $3,041,163, and for 1897-98, as given by the finance minister, $4,500,000, or an increase of $1,500,000 over and above the increase of 1896, and $1,900,000 above the average increase in the debt during the period from 1890 to 1896. How was it in regard to taxation? From 1892 to 1896 the customs revenue of the country averaged $19,839,684. In 1897 it went up to $19,891,996, while in 1898 the finance minister estimated that it would be $21,000,000, and in 1899 he estimated that it would be a similar amount. For 1898-1899, therefore, the amount that will be raised from the people of Canada by customs taxation alone will be $1,200,000 greater than it was on the average between 1892 and 1896. The total taxation in customs and excise between 1892 and 1896 was on the average $21,710,000. In 1896-97, when the present economical government came into power, it suddenly rose to $28,648,620. For 1898 it was estimated at $29,000,000, and for 1899 it was estimated at $29,500,000.

Mr. Taylor—And no protection.

Mr. Foster—So the total taxation to be raised from the people in 1899 is $1,800,000 greater than in 1897, and is more than that, much greater than it was on the average from 1892 to 1896. Take the total revenue of the country, which must come from the country, and be paid by the country, and whereas we raised $36,400,000 from 1892 to 1896, they raised $37,800,000 in 1896-97, while in 1897-98 they are to raise $39,300,000, and in 1899 they are to raise $40,500,000, or four millions more of a total revenue than we raised on the average.

AN INCREASED BURDEN.

The government, said Mr. Foster, may say: "Oh; but we are not increasing the burden of taxation." The burden of taxation is measured by the amount you take from the pockets of the people, and the amount you take from the pockets of the people will be four millions more in 1898-99 than it was in 1896-97; and if you take it from the people the people must pay. But you say, "We have reduced the tariff very largely, and the minister of finance read the other day a list of reductions he had made in the tariff. It is wonderful how often this reduction in rates brought down by a minister of finance does not work out to the enormous reduction he expected when it comes to actual figures of trade and commerce. Let us see how it works out. In 1893 the rate per cent. of dutiable and free goods entered for home consumption was 17.88 per cent., in 1896 it was 18.28 per cent., and in 1897 it was 17.87 per cent. That is, the average from 1892 to 1896 was less than the rate per cent. upon dutiable and free goods in 1896-97. But of the dutiable goods entered for home consumption in Canada, how does it stand? In 1893 that was 30.28 per cent.; in 1894 it was 30.87 per cent.; in 1895 it was 30.87 per cent.; in 1896 it was 30.07 per cent., and in 1897 it was 30.04, or a reduction of exactly 3-100 of 1 per cent. Take the records of trade for the first months of the current year, when hon. gentlemen opposite have had a particular tariff in operation up to the extent of one-half of the preference at least, and what happens? We find that the trade per cent. upon the imports of dutiable goods, when for home consumption, for these six months is 29.59, which, subtracted from the rate for the year 1896-97, gives a lowering of exactly 45-100 of one per cent. in the rate of duty which this country is paying. That is the whole saving. Whereas in the last year we charged 30.07 per cent., this year, on the half of it the government are charging 29.59 per cent. upon all dutiable goods entered for home consumption.

A NEW TAXATION.

Outside of that we are asked to put on new taxation. Not only is there to be a saving of one-half million dollars, after the beginning of next year, screwed out of the savers and thrifty depositors in the savings banks of the country, for which the government gives not one dollar in remission of taxation; but there is also to be new taxation for the people of the country under the pretence of helping sister colonies in distress, under the pretence of taking a part of the Imperial load and helping England to carry it. A proposition is made in the first place to raise the tax upon raw sugar and refined sugar, and then with a blare of trumpets to say to the West Indian colonies, "We will let you in with your sugar at the preferential rate." First, however, they take the precaution to so for raise the dead level rate that when the percentage is taken off and the preferential reduction is made, our people will pay, on the whole, a larger tax than at present. Under these circumstances and this pretence, we are asked to place an increased duty upon raw sugar. There were three hundred and thirty million pounds brought into this country last year, and from the West Indies twenty-five million pounds of that comes. How much will come in under the new arrangement? The finance minister could not tell; he could not even guess. No man can tell accurately. But I have this to predict, and I will hazard it, and let time again be the arbiter, that the finance minister stands to gain under that increase of the duty upon sugar, somewhat between $250,000 and $400,000 of revenue in the full year, from the time when it goes into operation. How splendid it is to help the West Indian colonies in their struggle! How equally splendid it is under the guise of high Imperial sentiment, and neighborly feeling to get $300,000 or $400,000 of taxes to add to the expenditure of the country, but to give no healing relief to any interest, "and to carry out no pledge!"

QUESTION OF EXPENDITURE.

Mr. Foster then turned to the question of expenditure. From 1887 to 1896 under Conservative administration, an average of $36,850,000 was expended on Consolidated Fund account. In 1896, the last year of Conservative administration, the expenditure amounted to $36,949,142. When the Liberal regime began, the expenditure for the first year was not one, two, or three millions less, but $1,300,000 more than under Conservative rule. It might be said that there had not yet been sufficient time allowed, and that a reduction would be made during the current year. The finance minister had, however, settled that by declaring that the expenditure during the current year would be $38,750,000 on consolidated fund account, which was exactly $1,800,000 more than the Conservatives expended in 1896, and $400,000 more than the Liberals themselves spent last year. Even if the premier promised to implement his pledge to reduce the expenditure in 1898-99 he had already been forestalled by the finance minister, who had brought down estimates to the good round sum of $39,124,000, to which supplementary estimates would have to be added, as the estimated expenditure for that year, which was an increase of $2,174,000 over the amount expended in 1896. Did hon. gentlemen opposite believe there was anything in a pledge at all? (Opposition cries of "No.") When they first came into power they evaded their pledges; next they violated them, and now they had the boldness to stand up in face of the country and repudiate them, declaring that it was folly to think of keeping the expenditure of the country within thirty-six or thirty-seven millions of dollars.

SOME PERSONAL HITS.

"A cynical expression flits over the face of the young Napoleon from the Northwest, when reminded of these pledges," said Mr. Foster. He has no qualms of conscience, but the leader of the government may be supposed to have some. What is he going to do about it? Will he implement his pledges? No, he is clay in the potter's hands. The man who sits behind him (Mr. Tarte), and the men who sit around him may take him at their will and raise the expenditure by one million, by two millions—yes, by three millions. Where is the big policeman from Ontario? The big policeman, who was referred to as "that Grit M. P. for Ontario," as the man with a huge club, who would stand before the minister of public works and would make him lower his flag if he did not keep the promise to be more economical. The big policeman is off his beat, or he has evidently given up the contest. (Cheers and laughter). Hon. gentlemen opposite were either fooling the people when they were making these promises of reduced expenditure or they did not know what they were talking about. One or the other horn of the dilemma the government must take, and each must be equally unpalatable to them and their supporters. The government had not even the excuse that a large proportion of the increased expenditure was due to items over which they had no control. Of the $1,400,000 increase, only $256,000 was due to uncontrollable expenditure; $1,140,000 was in items over which they had full control. Mr. Fielding said the cause of it was that interest on the new loan, but this was more than accounted for by the reduced interest on temporary loans and on savings bank deposits.

THE GOOD TIMES.

Mr. Foster fully agreed with Mr. Fielding's panegyric of the year 1896-7. But the government were not entitled to an atom of credit for it. The increased exports were based upon conditions which grew up under the National Policy, administered by the Liberal-Conservative party, and continued by their opponents for many months after they came into power. The abundance of the crops was entirely due to the conditions of the season. The advance in prices was due to want and scarcity in other parts of the world. The government did not find a new market for a single pound of Canadian produce anywhere, the wide world over. The policy they announced in April, 1897, had not the least appreciable effect upon the productions of the fiscal year, all of which had been raised or marketed before that policy was promulgated.

LIBERAL TARIFF POLICIES.

Reviewing the tariff policies of the Liberal party, Mr. Foster divided them into three periods:

1. The revenue tariff policy of Mackenzie.
2. The plea for an open door to the United States, closed to Great Britain and every other country in the world.
3. The holding up of the British model and free trade.

When the party came into power, said the speaker, the leaders knew as little as the people of Canada did which policy the government would adopt. They waited for nearly a year to make up their minds, to the confusion of business, the doubt and hesitancy of enterprise in industrial operations. On April 22, 1897, they laid their tariff upon the table and there it stayed until May 25th, when a revised tariff was brought down, making very material alterations. In the so-called preferential tariff the government tried to face all ways. As introduced, the measure was one of reciprocity, open to all the world. As explained after its introduction, it was a preferential policy, exclusive to Great Britain. As amended, after the month's waiting, it was a preferential policy, open to be availed of by all the most favored nations, but to the Netherlands, Japan, and, if parliament had not met, dear knows how many other countries. Sir Richard Cartwright hopes to see the United States coming in by that door. Canada was to have markets the wide world over, and to give these privileges to every country that would give her compensating advantages. But the government did not continue upon that road. They had only just entered upon it when they had to admit the force and urgency of the remarks made by the opposition with reference to the Belgian and German treaties. As a matter of courtesy, the law officers of the crown in England heard Sir Louis Davies on the question, but they did not change the view they had. The so-called preferential tariff had its effect in the jubilee year. It bore fruit in many ways and bore fruit quickly; but he doubted whether the ultimate result was to the advantage of Canada. He believed more good would have been done both to Canada and the Empire if the government had taken a straight-forward and manly course from the beginning, and told the British public just what they had to expect; for the British public woke up to find that they were getting no preference at all, but that the so-called exclusive British preference was shared by Germany, Belgium, and thirty-one other nations on exactly the same terms.

THE CHANGE IN FRONT.

Now the government has taken a position diametrically opposed to that of a year ago. Last year they took their stand upon free trade—"The world for Canada markets wherever we can get them and no restrictions. "To-day they have been forced by the relentless logic of their own blunders into an exclusive one-sided preference to Great Britain and certain British colonies, for which no compensation is obtained for the Canadian trader and producer. Where is now the sixty million market of the United States which Sir Richard Cartwright said in 1891, was worth more to Canada than all the rest of the world? That was the matured opinion of the present minister of trade and commerce six or seven years ago. Where is he today? By a political necessity forced, not of his own free will and convictions, he has taken the diametrical opposite position. Then the United States market was worth everything to us; for if we impose discrimination against Great Britain if it be necessary. To-day it is a discrimination against the very best of our markets; it is one-sided preference in the British market. The first minister, since he came back from England, paraded that phrase so well-known to us, "Canadian trade for Canada," and he said he had a higher and a wider motto now, and it was, "The trade of the world for Canada." Five, six or seven short months have passer since then, and no longer is the cry "The trade of the world for Canada," but it is narowed down to the trade of Great Britain and such British colonies as the minister of customs may allow to come into this arangement for an exclusive preference on one side only.

THE GOVERNMENT'S ACHIEVEMENTS.

Summed up, what have these hon. gentlemen in their fiscal ramblings got for Canada? For years they assailed the National Policy on the ground that it was not opening enough new markets, that it was too restricted, that it gave us nothing. If they were in power, said Mr. Charlton, they would have gone down to the United States and in one year have got a favorable reciprocal treaty. We could not get it, for we were Tories and jingoes and were not grateful to the people of the United States. Turn out that government, he said; put the Liberals in power, and they would go down and get reciprocity from the United States in the twinkling of an eye. These hon. gentlemen have been placed in power; they have made their quest; they have come back; they have brought us nothing in the shape of reciprocity from the United States; but, after all their honeyed words, their representations and protestations of good will, they get a higher tariff imposed against the products of Canada that are entering the United States than we have ever had to meet before. They gave the United States free corn but they did not get free barley. They gave them half the duty on iron; they got nothing in return. They have turned the cheek towards the United States and have been smitten on the other cheek. They have got nothing from the United States.

WHERE IS THE COMPENSATION?

From what country have they got anything? That is a simple question, and one to be asked and answered. After two and a half years in power, what markets have these people got for us as Canadians? The hon. gentleman says: "We have introduced preferential trade with Great Britain." Does a single pound of meat, a single bushel of grain, a single bushel of grain, a single product in this country anywhere go into the British market to-day, or will go after the 31 of July next, at one cent advantage that it has not had these last thirty years? Whilst you give off against the industries of this country one quarter of the protection which they have enjoyed for a while back, and enlarge and intensify the competition to our industrial people here for the products they make, what compensation do you get for that in the markets of England? None. What compensation do you get from the markets in the West India Islands that you have brought in? None. The United States is your competitor in the West India market for all the products of the field, which the West Indies people have to buy. The United States have now nine-tenths of that trade in their hands. It would have been something if you could have got a compensation for Canadian products in that market, for giving them a lightening of the tax upon their sugar. You have given them a preferential tariff on their sugars, but you do not put a pound of butter or a pound of cheese, or a pound of anything that our farmers raise into the West Indian market at which you have had during the next five any advantage over and above that which you have had during the last five or six years. It is all very well, as far as good will is concerned; but the question which the people of Canada will ask is: "Was there not a way by which you could have got something in return and had a mutual advantage? We are told, "Ah, but it will weld the Empire more together," I am somewhat doubtful of it. I do not think you weld two peoples together when you make them live side by side under unequal conditions. I do not believe that you add to the mutual feeling of love and respect and attachment between two peoples when it is always "Give" on one side, and "Not give" upon the other.

WHEN THE TEST WILL COME.

And in the course of this competition, which is to take place, when British manufacturers begin to come in with the 25 per cent. reduction, when the harder times come, when these more buoyant times will have passed away, as they will, and when the stress and strain of competition come and our industrial people, capitalists and laborers, meet that competition and fall here and there under its power, it will not add to their loyalty or strength of devotion to feel that they themselves are being made poor in order that the manufacturers, even of the Mother Country, may be made rich. (Hear, hear). It would seem to me that you lay the most lasting foundations for that love, which can only be founded upon mutual fair treatment, when there is give and take on both sides. Sir Wilfrid Laurier had the right idea if he had only held to it. He had the preferential idea when he spoke in London and when he spoke in Toronto. He had it when he started on his vessel to cross the Atlantic; but in some way or other the right hon. gentleman on his voyage across, if not before, had a change of heart, gave up his opinions, and put the whole weight and strength of his great influence at that time against the preferential idea in Great Britain. To-day we have the minister of finance rising in this house and giving the most cogent reasons to the British public and to the West Indians public why they should not give us any return for what we have given them. He has done that by trying to make it apparent as his belief that the time will never come, and that it is idle for us to expect that the people of Great Britain will ever allow themselves to be taxed in regard to food products from the colonies for the purpose of cementing and binding the Empire together in business, as well as in political relations.

GOT NOTHING FROM CANADA.

The honorable gentlemen have got no reciprocity for us anywhere. They have got no compensation for us among the preferred countries. They have not found any new markets for the Canadian products. They have told the British public practically not to reciprocate. The right honorable gentleman who leads the government had told them so. And when your advocates in England, numerous and powerful as they are, go to the British public and say: "Let us give a slight preferential on the food products of the colonies, in return for what they are doing for us, and in order to weld the Empire together," the British public will look in the face of the advocates and say: "That is all very well, but the Canadian Prime Minister and finance minister scout that idea ;they have given us all for nothing." So wedded are they to the freedom of trade embedded in the Cobden principle, that they do not believe that even for this preat purpose it is better to deviate in the least from that principle of unrestricted freedom of trade, even though though it may be to give the colonies a quid pro quo for what the colonies have given them. The outside world has been antagonized by the differential tariff, which certainly will not make the outside world any more favorably inclined to Canada. The possibilities are that it will make it less favorably inclined to Canada, and more inclined to be retaliatory. No advantages have been got from abroad by this government; but there is an intensified competition the area of which has been extended, and it will be thrown into the centre of every industrial operation in this country, in so far as that competition is strengthened by the reduction of one quarter on the protective duties now imposed.

THE THREATENED INDUSTRIES.

More than that, and I think, most unfortunate of all, even after having made these reductions, even after having made them without any compensation, even after having subjected the industrial forces of this country to that intensified and enlarged competition, the minister of finance had nothing better to do at the end of his speech than to stand up in this house and declare: "That so far as the protected industries of this country are concerned, eternal vigilance, must be the price of their protection"—that the days of the protected industries of the country (what protection remains) are few in number and full of harassment, that in one way or another they will be pursued until they are wiped off the face of the Dominion and an era of free trade or tariff for revenue established to stay. In all the annals of the pronouncements of finance ministers, I have never heard anything so singularly stupid and malevolent in the political sense as that statement. What is the first requisite that capital requires? It must first have something like stability or it will not seek investment. Where is the hon. member for Centre Toronto, who conducted his campaign almost entirely upon the N.P. as it is, without any disturbance for ten years—backed by the Toronto Globe with all its power, and backed by ministers of the Crown on each side—when he made his canvass and argument to the electorate. The mutilations of a tariff are disturbing and menacing enough in all consciences, it is not necessary for a finance minister to add to their disturbing influence by making from his seat in this house a standing menace to the industries of the country as that they must buy their safety. What did the hon. gentleman mean when he said that eternal vigilance must be the price of their protection? In this country where party politics ran so high as they did, and where political methods are used which (although they may not be much worse than in other countries are still well known). It looks to me very like a threat when the finance minister gives fair warning to our manufacturing industries, "If you want to live pay the price or you will not be allowed to live; you will be harassed; you may be wiped out—but there is a certain way by which you can gain our ear. You must make arguments to us, and if these are successful you will not be disturbed; but beware, from this on for you are in a condition of utter insecurity, and you can only buy your existence by being eternally vigilant." And he might have added, "everlastingly subservient." (Applause).

SOME POINTED QUERIES.

What else, have the government to congratulate themselves upon? Upon economy in administration? I think I have said enough to show that they cannot congratulate themselves upon that. Upon having fewer cabinet ministers? That was the bait held out to to the country; but the fact is they have one more. The salaries are larger and so are the expenses in every way. Then there was to be a cessation of the granting of railway subsidies, which it was claimed, were chiefly remarkable for their power to corrupt the constituencies. In poor in order that the manufacturers, even of the Mother Country, may be made rich. (Hear, hear). It would seem to me that you lay the most lasting foundations for that love, which can only be founded upon mutual fair treatment, when there is give and take on both sides. Sir Wilfrid Laurier had the right idea if he had only held to it. He had the preferential idea when he spoke in London and when he spoke in Toronto. He had it when he started on his vessel to cross the Atlantic; but in some way or other the right hon. gentleman on his voyage across, if not before, had a change of heart, gave up his opinions, and put the whole weight and strength of his great influence at that time against the preferential idea in Great Britain. To-day we have the minister of finance rising in this house and giving the most cogent reasons to the British public and to the West Indians public why they should not give us any return for what we have given them. He has done that by trying to make it apparent as his belief that the time will never come, and that it is idle for us to expect that the people of Great Britain will ever allow themselves to be taxed in regard to food products from the colonies for the purpose of cementing and binding the Empire together in business, as well as in political relations.

GOT NOTHING FROM CANADA.

The honorable gentlemen have got no reciprocity for us anywhere. They have got no compensation for us among the preferred countries. They have not found any new markets for the Canadian products. They have told the British public practically not to reciprocate. The right honorable gentleman who leads the government had told them so. And when your advocates in England, numerous and powerful as they are, go to the British public and say: "Let us give a slight preferential on the food products of the colonies, in return for what they are doing for us, and in order to weld the Empire together," the British public will look in the face of the advocates and say: "That is all very well, but the Canadian Prime Minister and finance minister scout that idea ;they have given us all for nothing." So wedded are they to the freedom of trade embedded in the Cobden principle, that they do not believe that even for this preat purpose it is better to deviate in the least from that principle of unrestricted freedom of trade, even though though it may be to give the colonies a quid pro quo for what the colonies have given them. The outside world has been antagonized by the differential tariff, which certainly will not make the outside world any more favorably inclined to Canada. The possibilities are that it will make it less favorably inclined to Canada, and more inclined to be retaliatory. No advantages have been got from abroad by this government; but there is an intensified competition the area of which has been extended, and it will be thrown into the centre of every industrial operation in

RELIEVES IN 30 MINUTES.

A MAGICAL LIFE-SAVER.

The most pronounced symptoms of heart disease are palpitation or fluttering of the heart, shortness of breath, weak or irregular pulse, smothering spells at night, pains in region of heart. The brain may be congested, causing headaches, dizziness or vertigo. In short, whenever the heart flutters, aches or palpitates, it is diseased, and if life is valued treatment must be taken. Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart is the only remedy yet discovered which will always give relief in 30 minutes, and cure absolutely.—28.

Sold by Dean & Hiscocks and Hall & Co.

SIR RICHARD REPLIES.

He Blames the Tories for the Liberal's Big Expenditure.

Sir Richard Cartwright who followed, admitted that luck had been in favor of the government. He asserted that during the last year of Conservative administration the expenditure had been unduly curtailed for party reasons and a million dollars thrown into 1896-97, which properly belonged to the previous year. For 1896-97, Mr. Foster asked $38,359,000, and for the identical services in 1898-9, the government asked $37,960,000. The total was $39,125,000; but this included $396,000 for the Yukon administration and $770,000 rental for the extension of the I. C. R. to Montreal. Then it must not be forgotten that Canada had added 200,000 souls to her population, and there was a certainty of increased receipts from the Yukon district and the C.P.R. extension. The only increases of expenditure were on agricultural statistics and these he was prepared to defend. He defended the decrease in savings bank interest and said that over half of the depositors held about $1,000 each. These banks cost ¼ per cent. in management and it must be remembered that the depositors had a right to withdraw their money on very short notice.

As to the tariff Sir Richard admitted that there had not been as much change as he would like to have seen, but, on the other hand, goods were coming in under the present tariff which were practically prohibited under the old and the revenue was correspondingly increased.

The opposition, Sir Richard remarked, were supposed at one time to have had a monopoly of loyalty, but in ten years under their policy the imports from Great Britain had decreased $15,000,000, while in the same period the imports from the United States had increased about the same amount. The present government had shown its loyalty in action, whereas the opposition's loyalty appeared to consist chiefly in talk.

As to the government's preferential trade policy, Sir Richard said he still held that their original position on this question was a sound one; but they were obliged to abandon it when the British law officers, for state reasons, he supposed, had insisted upon their construction of the Belgian and German treaties. He was still firm in the opinion that a reciprocity treaty had nothing to do with these treaties, or with the most favored nation clause. The renunciation of the German and Belgian treaties, however, was more than had ever been done for any other government in Canada. Mr. Foster had said that the government had got nothing from the United States. Well, it took two to make a bargain, and when the United States refused to trade with Canada she had showed that country that she was master of her own destinies and that she would open her gates to those who would trade with her, and chose them against those who refused to trade with her.

When in opposition, Sir Richard said, the burden of his attacks upon the government was the increase in permanent charges. These permanent charges had been inflicted against the advice and protest of the present government and it was not fair to hold the government responsible for them or to expect it to undo in twenty short months the mischief of eighteen years. If in eighteen years the present government could not show a better record than the late administration they would be deserving of the severest censure. They might not be able to reduce the expenditure but they would at least get better service for the expenditure or as an equivalent increase the population. He still maintained that the manufacturers of Canada would be better off to-day if protection had not been resorted to.

Will be found an excellent remedy for sick headache. Carter's Little Liver Pills. Thousands of letters from people who have used them prove this fact. Try them. *

OF INTEREST TO MEN.

The attention of the reader is called to an attractive little book lately published by that eminent Expert Physician, G. H. BOBERTZ, M.D., 252 WOODWARD AVE., DETROIT, MICH. This book is one of genuine interest to every man and its plain and honest advice will certainly be of the greatest value to any one desirous of securing perfect health and vigor. A request for a free and sealed copy will be complied with, if addressed as above and the Victoria Colonist mentioned. *

GALIANO, B.C.

The marriage of Mr. Herbert Macklin, postmaster and assessor of Galiano Island, with Miss Ethel Julia Crockford, youngest daughter of the late W. Crockford, Esq., of Aylebury, Eng., was solemnized at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Mayne Island, on Monday, the 18th inst., by the Right Rev. W. W. Perrin, D.D., Lord Bishop of Columbia, assisted by the Rev. Cannon Paddon. The service was fully choral, Mr. C. Drummond Worge ably presiding at the organ. The church decorations were most tasteful, one feature being especially novel and pretty—on leaving the church the bridal party passed under a floral horse-shoe of fragrant lilies and ferns, which was raised by two of the bride's former pupils, Misses Ruth McDonald and Catherine Groth. The bride was given away by her mother, Mrs. W. E. de Vuelle, and looked charming in a dress of cream silk trimmed with point lace, with tulle veil and orange blossoms. She carried a magnificent shower bouquet with streamers of white satin ribbon. She was attended by Miss E. J. King, of Victoria, who wore a dress of white organdie, trimmed with Valenciennes lace and maidenhair ferns, the gift of the bridegroom. The bride's travelling dress was of tan poplin, handsomely trimmed with silk of a darker shade. The groom was supported by Mr. A. W. Carter.

Following the ceremony and breakfast a reception was held, after which the happy pair departed for the mainland amidst showers of congratulations of innumerable friends.

Free Trial To Any Honest Man

The Foremost Medical Company in the World in the Cure of Weak Men Makes this Offer.

HEALTH AND ENERGY ASSURED. HAPPY MARRIAGE, GOOD TEMPER, LONG LIFE.

In all the world to-day—in all the history of the world—no doctor nor institution has treated and restored so many men as has the famed ERIE MEDICAL CO. of Buffalo, N. Y.

This is due to the fact that the company controls some inventions and discoveries which have no equal in the whole realm of medical science.

So much deception has been practiced in advertising that this grand old company now for the first time makes this startling offer:—

They will send their costly and magically effective appliance and a whole month's course of restorative remedies, positively on trial without expense to any honest and reliable man!

Not a dollar need be advanced—not a penny paid—till results are known to and acknowledged by the patient.

The Erie Medical Company's appliance and remedies have been talked about and written about all over the world, till every man has heard of them.

They restore or create strength, vigor, healthy tissue and new life.

They quickly stop drains on the system that sap the energy.

They cure nervousness, despondency and all the effects of evil habits, excesses, overwork, etc.

They give full strength, development and tone to every portion and organ of the body.

Failure is impossible and age is no barrier.

This "Trial without Expense" offer is limited by the company to a short time, and application must be made at once.

No C. O. D. scheme, no bogus philanthropy nor deception, no exposure—a clean business proposition by a company of high financial and professional standing.

Write to the ERIE MEDICAL COMPANY, BUFFALO, N. Y., and refer to seeing the advertisement of their offer in this paper.