

To come at the facts, it may be briefly stated that the country has received for the increased expenditure since Confederation increased service, and increased public works, the whole of which has cheapened the cost of living and transport in the country to a much greater amount than that of the increased indebtedness; but the facts of increase, are misleading, as put in the Rouge-Grit tract. The expenditure has mainly relation to increase of debt, and the following little statement shows the facts:—

1878.	1887.
GRIT RULE.	CONSERVATIVE RULE.
Average increase of debt per annum— \$8,000,000.	Average increase of debt per annum— \$1,800,000.
Deficits under Grit rule, \$9,500,000.	Surplus under Conservative rule \$19,500,000

The population and wealth of the country, since Confederation, have greatly increased, and besides having the advantage of great public works, opening up the whole of the country and cheapening living in it, as well as adding to its general wealth, the actual fact of burden upon the people may be best stated by the amount of interest on the net debt. In 1879, which was the first year of Sir John's administration, the net interest for the public debt of Canada was \$1.58 per head, and in 1885, the last year for which the accounts have been made up, it was \$1.59 per head. That is one cent a head a year on the whole population for all the great public works which have been constructed, more than the interest paid in Mr. Mackenzie's time.

The Electors can judge for themselves by the light of this fact.

### FORM 5

Has the sensational heading, "WHITHER ARE WE DRIFTING?" "THE OPINION OF AN INDEPENDENT CONSERVATIVE JOURNAL ON THE SITUATION." The "independent *Conservative* journal,"—save the mark!—which is quoted, is the *Montreal Herald*, a paper which is not a "Conservative" journal, but on the contrary, one of the maddest and most violent of all the Rouge-Grit papers in the Dominion; a paper that out-Herods Herod, and which is apparently actuated by the venomous malice of its chief proprietor, because Sir John Macdonald refused to give him his old place in the ministry at the head of the Marine Department. There is no secret about this. The fact is known to everybody. Why then do the Rouge Grit election committees try to impose on the confidence of Conservative farmers by publishing this plain falsehood.

The article itself contains not a single fact. It is a mere tirade about "frightful abyss," "political and financial bankruptcy," "blind shares," "boodle," "railway subsidies," "tariffs," "ring," &c., &c., written in a style that is unfortunately too congenial to the Rouge Grit editors and orators.

### FORM 6

Is headed, "BRIBES TO MINISTERS OF THE CROWN. CONTRACTORS BUY INFLUENCE WITH GIFTS, PURSES AND FAMILY SETTLEMENTS."

It is needless to say that not one fact is shown in support of this lying and libellous heading. The public testimonial which was presented to Sir John Macdonald after his retirement from the Ministry in 1873, personally a very poor man, notwithstanding all the charges of corruption which had been made against him, and which was openly subscribed to in every part of the Dominion by his friends in small amounts to the amount of \$80,000, and settled on his family, forms the first and principal ground on which the libel above quoted is based. The transaction was honourable to all concerned. Then the old Sir Hugh Allan affair is put in for the next item of support. It would be worse than waste of time to thresh that old chaff again. It is also made a crime against Sir David