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MINING IN B. C. AND ELSEWHERE.

TO THE EDITOR:—A copy of the Daily Scotsman of January 19 has just come to hand in which there appears the half-yearly report, ending 30th November last, of the Broken Hill silver mine in Australia. This report shows a profit for the half year of $1,853,720, and a dividend paid of $1,393,920. The value of the ore extracted was $15 65 per ton, and the cost of production was $10 55 per ton. The price obtained for lead was $45 46 per ton, and for silver 64 cents per ounce. The production for the week ending 24th ult. was 9,189 tons, yielding 765 tons of lead containing 208,839 ounces of silver. There were also treated by the amalgamating and leaching plants 1,154 tons of ore yielding 15,910 ounces of silver.

The above report is given in sterling money and in tons of 2,240 pounds, but I have for convenience changed the money into Canadian currency, and in working out the quantity of silver per ton of ore I have corrected the result for the American ton of 2,000 pounds. Making this correction, we find that the Broken Hill ore contains 20.40 ounces of silver per ton.

If the same amount of capital had been expended in mining in the Kootenay district, I have no doubt the ore could have been produced and treated at the same cost as it was at the Broken Hill mine. My impression is that it could have been produced more cheaply, as the Broken Hill mine is a heavily timbered mine, and if I remember rightly the timbers have to be imported at considerable cost, whereas timber is plentiful and cheap in Kootenay. The ore of many of the Kootenay mines, is however, much richer than those of this Australian group and I proceed to make the following comparison between the two:

In the report of Mr. G. M. Dawson for the year 1889 he gives 352 ounces of silver per ton of ore from the Silver King mines as the average result of three assays. The Toronto Saturday Globe of August 19, 1893, gives the result of a shipment of about 100 tons of ore from these mines, which contained 20 per cent. of copper and a value of $300 per ton of silver and about $4 per ton in gold. Assuming the copper to be worth $1 per unit (a low value) we have a total value of $324 per ton for the Silver King ores, whereas the Broken Hill ore shows for one week's working only $13 05 in silver and $3 15 in lead, giving a total value of $16 20 per ton, which is rather higher than the half-yearly average.

We may therefore safely assume that the Silver King ore is worth 20 times that of the Broken Hill ore, and if the shareholders of the latter had conducted their operations in British Columbia instead of in Australia, they would have had 20 times the profit or $37,074,400 for the half year or $74,148,800 for the whole year. This seems rather a startling result to arrive at; we can hardly expect that if even the Silver King comes to be worked on a large scale the ore will continue of the same richness as the samples treated, as they were very probably picked ore. However there is plenty of margin left. The Broken Hill mines are probably the largest silver producing mines at the present, and in their working we see the good results obtained by working a low grade ore on a large scale.

Before leaving the subject of silver mines I would like to mention another parcel of 20 tons of British Columbia ore, sent to the Omaha smelter, which returned in silver $2,045 46 and in lead $882 60. This is equal to $196 40 per ton of ore, which is over twelve times richer than the Broken Hill ore. I may here mention I have no interest in any of the mines referred to.

From information supplied to me by a friend of mine on whom I can rely, the value of ores in silver in other parts of the world is as follows—in ounces per ton: In the group of mines at San Juan, Argentine Republic, 83 oz. (average of 39 samples). In Chili, the Carmen Works, Capiapo, in 1888, 28 to 39 oz; Puquios Works, near Capiapo, 18 to 22 oz. In U.S.A., Leadville, 1889, 16 oz.; Homestake, 1889, 13 40 oz; Nevada, Consolidated Virginia, 1890, 20 10 oz; Nevada, Alta, California, 1890, 22 50 oz; Nevada, Crown Point, 1890, 15 40 oz; Nevada, Yellow Jacket, 21.8 oz. From these figures it appears that the Broken Hill is about the average of the world's silver ores, and that British Columbia's ores are very much above that average.

In the newspaper above referred to appears a prospectus for a gold mining property situated in the Murchison district of Western Australia, wherein it is stated that "taking the yield of stone at 2 oz. to the ton with a 20-stamp battery at work, the net profit (after deducting London management expenses) should exceed $242,000 per annum—being equal to, say, 33 per cent. on the capital." From what I have heard of the gold bearing quartz veins of British Columbia, 2 oz. per ton would be a low estimate of their value. Mr. Dawson, in the report above referred to, also points out that in various parts of the world large profits have been made in quartz crushing where the gold was under half an ounce to the ton. It would therefore appear that there is also a good prospect for investment of capital in gold mines (which are at present in fashion) in this province.

J. DUNN, C.E.

TUPPER IN TORONTO.

The Minister of Justice Makes a Cogent Defence of the National Policy.

Manitoba School Question—No Beating About the Bush—Laurier's Inconsistencies.

(From the Mail and Empire.)

On the occasion of the inauguration of the new rooms of the Young Men's Liberal Association at Toronto on the 7th instant, addresses were delivered by the Premier and several of his colleagues, among them Sir Charles Tupper, minister of justice, who made a very powerful speech, which was received with enthusiastic applause and will be generally regarded as a splendid and statesmanlike effort.

Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper received an ovation, the audience rising to their feet and cheering, and afterwards singing "He's a Jolly Good Fellow." When the Minister of Justice was at length able to proceed, he remarked that he need not, like the silver-tongued orator, ask whether that was Toronto. (Laughter.) The cordiality of their welcome, much to his delight, reminded him that it was Toronto—(hear, hear)—for in no part of the Dominion of Canada, during his few years' experience of political life, had he ever received a warmer or more cordial greeting than in this city; and it was therefore with all the more delight and gratification that he had that night the distinguished honor of being permitted to announce publicly from that platform that the rooms of the Young Men's Liberal Conservative Association were open. (Cheers.) It was with pleasure he announced that in that building was to be found, as there was in the dark days between 1874 and 1878, a habitation and a dwelling place, a spot of comfort, for all who were ardent and anxious in the welfare of this country and the prosperity of the Liberal-Conservative party. (Laughter and cheers.) No words of his could possibly describe the appreciation he felt at the undeserved honor which they had conferred upon him. Perhaps their kindness and generosity were prompted by a recollection of the services and the loyalty of a man whose name he bore in the cause of the Liberal-Conservative party. (Cheers.) Their Premier, Sir Mackenzie Bowell, whom they all rejoiced to have with them that night—(cheers)—had with becoming modesty passed over that event in Canadian history that brought about his advancement to the most distinguished position that a Canadian could possibly occupy. (Hear, hear.) But it gave him (Sir Charles) peculiar gratification, even in the sorrow he felt in connection with the loss of their

BRILLIANT AND SPLENDID LEADER,

Sir John Thompson (hear, hear), to realize that after all, from one ocean to the other, and through all the provinces, the Liberal-Conservative party know no provincial lines. He well knew that, notwithstanding certain prejudices that existed in connection wish Sir John Thompson, and certain criticisms that were made, none of those things, no matter what they were, had anything to do with the particular locality in Canada from which the deceased Premier came. (Hear, hear.) Their party was glad to recognize the man and his qualifications for leadership, regardless altogether and apart from sectional ideas. (Hear, hear.) They were just as proud to follow loyally the man from the province by the sea as they were that night united in the determination to support a man from the province of Ontario; and he declared that Sir Mackenzie Bowell would experience the same loyalty from the province of Nova Scotia and from the Maritime Provinces as Sir John Thompson would have received at the hands of that marvellous and magnificent section of their country, of which Toronto was the capital. (Cheers.) He was proud to say that whatever the faults of the Conservative party, they had never been a provincial party or one made up from sections or from districts. Above all things they had been a Canadian party (cheers), and they had so impressed this doctrine on the Canadian mind that in the meeting held a night or two ago they had the satisfaction of knowing that the loudest cheers went up and the greatest enthusiasm prevailed when the Liberal leader signed his name, and made a declaration of his loyalty to Canadian principles, and declared, above all things, that

HE WAS A CANADIAN,

and that Liberal meeting wound up with three cheers for the Queen. (Cheers.) He was willing to admit that the Liberals, although they had been long in learning their lesson, had at last acquired a knowledge of something, and whether they had got their lesson correctly or not, were on the right road to it. (Laughter and cheers.) Conservatives were sometimes chided for their professions of loyalty, and some fun was poked at them on that account. But through good and evil report they had stood by monarchical institutions and fought for them, and they stood for the Empire, first, last and always. (Cheers.) They proposed to continue on that course, but he desired to point out at the same time that throughout the Dominion of Canada, and nowhere more than in the Conservative ranks, was recognized that spirit of democracy which gave to every man his due. (Hear, hear.) Sir John Macdonald died with a collection of honors that the proudest and the greatest minded in the Empire might well have envied; but he began as a young man in Canada at the lowest rung of the ladder, and he was proud of the humility of that origin.

SIR JOHN THOMPSON.

Speaking of Sir John Thompson, he said:—Sir John Thompson, whose praises are now being sounded from every quarter of our young country, whose life is justly regarded as almost phenomenal throughout the whole Empire—you know what his origin was, and you know that it was owing to his wonderful ability, to his extraordinary industry, and to the fact that he was born and bred and nurtured in the magnificent climate of our continent of North America, that he owed the position he had attained and all the honors that his Sovereign was glad and proud to confer upon him. (Applause.) While our hearts are filled with sorrow, there is abroad in this young country of ours a delight and a bright example as we study the life of that man. The Liberal-Conservative party of Canada rejoices in that they assisted him in that magnificent march which he made in his young life, and to-day I say without hesitation, and with all diffidence to the presence of our Premier, that there is another source of gratification and encouragement for Canadians, Liberals as well as Conservatives, in the life of the present Premier of the Dominion. (Loud cheers.) All know that he is a self-made man, and that his character was formed in this country of ours, and his industry and indefatigability have met with great honors at the hands of his fellow-countrymen. (Applause.) You accepted Sir John Thompson, a man from the province by the sea. We accept Sir Mackenzie Bowell, this man from the Premier Province of the Dominion of Canada. (Applause.) We are proud to know his history, and above all to know that he, in the struggle between protection and free trade, represented and represents, more than any other man in the Parliament of Canada, the principles of protection. (Applause.) Whatever any man may say about our past leaders, the meanest of our opponents must admit that our present leader—and I am glad to know that the admission is well founded—is above all things, and has been above all things, true to the policy of protection. (Applause.) While we have him as our leader and are glad to follow him in the fight to come, we know this, that whatever there may be among our oppenents there can be

NO BEATING ABOUT THE BUSH,

because when a man says he believes in the principles of the doctrine on which we take our stand—the doctrine of the National policy—he is a dyed-in-the-wool protectionist and we are proud of him. (Applause.) All those who serve in the cabinet with him are dyed-in-the-wool protectionists and are going to live with that sort of dye. (Laughter.) They (the Liberals) talk to-day about a general election. I have heard something about that in the last three weeks myself. The leader of the Liberal party has been in this city, and in the city of Montreal, and he says, "Who's afraid? Bring on your election at once." A month or so ago, when they thought it possible to influence the Governor General to postpone an appeal to the country, what did they say? (Laughter.) Now they say, "We are ready for you." If I have read the public press and the Liberal journals aright, they have spent a great deal of time in endeavoring to convince the Governor-General of the folly of a dissolution. They lectured him—told him he had no right to dissolve the parliament of Canada. Now, when they think—and I don't blame them for thinking—(laughter)—that an election is near at hand, they say, "We are ready." We say, "Who is the man that struck Billy Patterson?" (Laughter and cheers.) Theirs is courage born of desperation. But I ask you to think of something else—of all their talk about a party broken to pieces, a party that has lost its leaders, that is losing ground. Think how often we have had to listen to it. Sir John Macdonald, it is true, took from us a prestige, but he also took a prestige from the nation. Sir John Abbott commanded so much the respect of his political opponents that when he died they gathered some crumbs of comfort, only to be further discouraged by the advent of the brilliant man who succeeded him, and the criticism of that successor was not altogether eulogistic. Now their hopes are again revived, or they pretend that there is a revival. But I ask you to bear in mind this significant test of the sincerity of that

TRUMPERY CRITICISM—

for that is what it is—that both by Sir Richard Cartwright and at the Liberal convention at Ottawa, in June of 1893, the conviction was expressed that the machine, in the principles and in form of the National Policy, had kept the Conservative party in power in this country since 1878. So that beyond all consideration of leadership the firm conviction is expressed by the Reform party that we have existed as a party since 1878 owing to the fact that we have been true to our principles. Continuing, the speaker said that he regretted to note that at Montreal Mr. Laurier descended from the rather high plane he as a rule assumed to insinuate that the Liberal prospects were all the brighter because the Conservative had lost those magnificent leaders. Mr. Laurier, he said, did not so much rely upon the strength of the platform he was there to vindicate, or, as he himself had said, to expose, but evidently relied upon the loss of Sir John Macdonald to weaken the Conservative cause. He had even quoted from English history to show that at one time, when the Conservative party of that country had lost its brilliant chieftain, it went to pieces. Had Mr. Laurier no recognition of patent facts? Did he not know that the Conservative party in Canada, when it had sustained such great losses, showed at the most critical period of its history the most magnificent front and strength that a political party ever exhibited in the wide world? (Applause.) It showed a front that not only commanded the admiration of Canadians, but presented a splendid picture to every politician in the world. Did he (Mr. Laurier) not know that, when the Conservatives were standing with Sir John Abbott and Sir John Thompson, it was gaining strength from day to day? He was willing to admit, notwithstanding all his admiration for Sir John Macdonald, that at that juncture the Conservative party gained strength which they never could have gained—and he spoke advisedly—

HAD SIR JOHN MACDONALD LIVED.

So those trumpery criticisms and boasts were made without cause—the party that lived on that kind of thing was counting without its host. Sir John Thompson had been confronted with a more formidable policy than that which met the Conservative party to-day. When Sir John Thompson died his opponents ran away from the principles they had had since '78. Nothing gave him (the speaker) greater pleasure as a young Canadian than to serve under Sir Mackenzie Bowell. He paid a glowing tribute to the Premier for bringing about the Colonial Conference—a conference which he characterized as one of the most extraordinary the world had ever seen, and one which already was beginning to bear good fruit. After referring briefly to the attacks made by the Liberal party on the National Policy, he spoke of the stand taken by Sir Richard Cartwright upon the question. He did not, he said, hesitate to say that there was no man in the Liberal party whose ability could be compared with that of Sir Richard Cartwright. He (Sir Richard) had served that party with a loyalty and fidelity that was in marked contrast to that he had given to the Conservative party. It was a shame and disgrace to the Liberal party of Canada that they should be hounding him out of political life and out of the constituency which had been prepared for him. (Applause and laughter.)

The speaker pointed out in regard to Sir Richard Cartwright that it was only when that gentleman, as he said, spent his whole time in the riding that the "stabbing under the fifth rib" began—(laughter)—and therefore, as the saying ran, "hinc illae lachrymae." His only salvation was to get away from the Liberal county, go back to Kingston, and keep quiet. (Cheers and laughter.) The Reform party held a mass meeting in Montreal, and another in Toronto, and Sir Richard Cartwright and Mr. Mills were left out. To the credit of the Liberal party he must also say that Mr. John Charlton, the Michigander, was left out. (Laughter.) Sir Richard Cartwright and Mr. Laurier, in his Toronto speech, had alluded to a certain fact that he (Sir Charles) could not afford to pass by. If their statements were founded upon fact he would not ask a single Liberal Conservative in the city of Toronto or elsewhere to support a government of which Sir Adolphe Caron was a member. (Hear, hear.) But he branded the statements of Mr. Laurier and Sir Richard Cartwright as calumnious falsehoods, as statements that

COULD NOT BE SUPPORTED,

and were not supported. (Hear, hear.) The allegation had been made that the charges against Sir Adolphe Caron in relation to the use of Federal railway subsidies were garbled and mutilated. Instead of this being the fact Sir Charles pointed out that the Liberals were taken at their word in regard to the serious nature of the charges made, and it was decided to grant an investigation. Then it was that Sir Richard made his complaint about garbled charges. Respecting Mr. Laurier's statement that Sir Adolphe Caron had admitted taking $25,000 from subsidies for the purpose of corrupting electors, and would do it again, Sir Charles said he would nail that lie at once, and stated there was not a word of truth in it. He challenged Mr. Laurier to quote the language of Sir Adolphe Caron, and prove the statement he had made. One of his great arguments, and he thought there was much force in it, was that if Canada was to become a great nation, if the Canadians wished to see in the political arena and the councils of the country the most brilliant and able men, the system of degrading and villifying those who aspired to high and exalted positions must cease. He cited the sorrowful state of affairs which existed in the neighboring Republic as a warning, but he vilified as far as he could every public man who opposed the opinions held and advocated by him, that the only salvation for Canada lay in the union of the British and American nation, which would be the first step towards the absorption of the Dominion by the United States. Continuing, he said that the great question was not, as the Liberals seemed to think, whether Canada had retrograded or progressed, but "how could greater progress be made?" (Applause.) Mr. Laurier had said that he was a Liberal of the English school—a follower of Peel. He (the speaker) had not known before Mr Laurier's speech that Peel was a Liberal. (Laughter.) Perhaps he was wrong. But he wished to say that no Liberal or Reformer with whom he was acquainted, or whose speeches he had read,

DARE FOR A MOMENT

advocate in this country what Peel had advocated in '42 and '46. (Applause.) The principles advocated by Peel, put into execution, meant direct taxation. In speeches in Montreal Mr. Laurier had promised to take the duty off raw materials and manufactured products. In his delightfully vague way he had declined to specify what raw materials were, and how the required revenue would be raised after freeing them and manufactured products from duty. In 1893 Mr. Laurier and Sir Richard Cartwright had charged protection with having duped, plundered, robbed, and defrauded the people of Canada. Yet, face to face with the manufacturers of Montreal, Mr. Laurier promised to give them better protection than ever before, he might have added at the cost of other Canadians. He had said: "But it is only in the dim and distant future that the goal will be reached—not in your day; you need not be afraid that we will bother you at once, no; but in long, long stages we will threaten and destroy all your interests, while in the meantime he will protect you, far better than the Conservative party ever did." They remind me of the man who, having been condemned to be hanged, asked for "a long day, my Lord, a long day," hoping to put off the time as long as possible; and so, with the manufacturers of Montreal the Liberals entered a plea of "a long day." (Laughter and applause.) "We will not hang you all at once," they said, "but will proceed more gradually to your extinction." Continuing, Sir Charles said that Mr. Laurier, in referring to the approaching elections, which one would think he was dying for, said they "would come like a thief in the night"; and he also said that the government of Sir Mackenzie Bowell represented death. Well, he (the speaker) agreed with him. It did represent death—death to the Liberal party. In this respect the Liberal party resembled the man, who, having expostulated with death for appearing at a wedding feast, received a promise that he would have three warnings; and he had, for he went blind first, and then he went deaf, and then lame; and then death seized him. Surely the resemblance was remarkable, for everyone in this room knew how

DEAF WAS THE LIBERAL PARTY

to the expressions of the national spirit of this country in 1891; how blind they had been on the question of free trade in 1894; and now, how lame they were in their policy in 1895. And he was not afraid to prophesy that if Sir Mackenzie Bowell were only to pull the string the Conservative party would have them whenever they liked. (Laughter and cheers.) Mr. Laurier had said in Montreal that it was a stale joke to accuse the Liberal party of having no policy. Well, he hardly thought it was a stale joke, but the joke was rather on the other side, for they had had so many it was impossible to keep track of them. (Laughter.) Since he had been in parliament, that was since 1882, they had had such a diversity of platforms that it was exceedingly difficult to tell just where they stood. They said now that their platform was that of the convention of 1893. He could not admit that; in fact he thought that policy was out of date; and to prove it he need only refer to the recent utterances favoring the free admission of raw material. He would challenge any man in Canada to find such a plank in the Ottawa platform of 1893. The majority of the electors of this country knew well that in 1893 the Liberal leader had raised the flag of free trade—free trade as they have it in Great Britain. In contradistinction to that plank read his speech delivered a short time ago in Montreal, and they would not find in it one single reference to free trade on those lines. He firmly believed that, be the faults what they might that they could find in the National Policy, until these gentlemen who sought to guide the destinies of the Dominion had laid before the people of Canada some policy more consistent than they had so far submitted, either on the floor of the house or on the stump, the people would not believe them, any more than they had believed them at the celebrated speech in Malvern in 1887, when they had laid down a certain line of policy, and had afterwards proved

FALSE TO EVERY PRINCIPLE

propounded in that speech. He (the speaker) had said in Victoria the other day that as soon as the general elections were over they would find the Liberal leader making a recantation of his free trade principles. And what have they found already but that he was now making a recantation, for they could not find in his recent speeches any declaration of such free trade principles as they had had a right to look for. (Applause.) There was no Conservative within the sound of his voice who could have avoided a certain sense of gratification when the Liberal leader in this city the other evening undertook to deal with the statistics compiled by that eminent statesman, the Finance Minister of this country. He did not mean to deal with those figures, but he would say that the only reply that had come from the glib-tongued leader was that he was a juggler of figures, but the exposition of the jugglery did not follow the charge. He asked what could be a better indication of the successful progress of the Dominion than the question asked by Sir Richard Cartwright in 1887, and the answer given by Mr. Laurier in Victoria in 1894. He had waited long for the answer, but had not expected to find it fall from the lips of the Liberal leader. Sir Richard asked: "Is Confederation such a blessing as to be worth a struggle to preserve?" And the answer had been: "The time has come when the country realizes that Canadian citizenship is worth living for, or dying for, if need be." The Conservative party believed that with their policy they could attract all young Canadians, and, indeed, all Canadians worthy of the name. During late years there had been in Great Britain most anxious times and most

EXTRAORDINARY COMMERCIAL CRISES

and in the neighboring republic a similar state of affairs. There had been in that period declaration after declaration from their opponents, and in speeches from the throne in the local legislatures, congratulating the people upon the prosperity and progress of this young Dominion. (Cheers.) And if any doubt were entertained with respect to the interpretation to be placed upon the meaning of those statements he would take them to the money markets and centres of civilization outside of this country, where he would challenge them to find anything but a spirit of admiration for Canadian pluck, energy and progress. (Cheers.) These were the answers the government had to give to those who said the population had only increased in a very small degree. He would like, if time permitted, to deal with some cardinal principles of our system of taxation. Their opponents had attributed to it every difficulty and every unavoidable irregularity in our system of government. He said that the charges were false, and that the Conservatives were not the only protectionists in Canada, for in every period there had been a recognition of the necessity for protecting our independence and guarding our markets from unfair competition from abroad. He considered that it was difficult for their opponents, so long as they were afraid of direct taxation as practised in England, to put upon the Conservatives the responsibility for the system of protection. It was the only system that had been known in Canada, even though it had differed in degree at times, and it was the system under which they had been born, and when it was said that it was a system of corruption the charge was a vile slander. (Cheers.) Continuing, Sir Charles quoted a remark of Cobden's in which he asked how could there be a tariff for revenue that was not also a tariff for protection, and showed that Mr. Laurier had himself endorsed the same sentiment. Fancy Bright or Cobden or Gladstone having anything to do with these men, who were afraid even to whisper the name of direct taxation. The system of protection was so firmly grounded that

NO LIBERAL LEADER DARE

challenge it as a whole, or come into this city and say that if he were returned he would overthrow the policy of protection, the policy which was represented by Sir Mackenzie Bowell. (Applause.) He had the pleasure of following Sir John Macdonald, of serving under and with him, and had the satisfaction of knowing something of his political history; but it was reserved for him that after he was dead and gone, a man who had been intimate with him, who held a distinguished position at the bar of the province of Ontario, and therefore commanded a certain amount of attention, should utter contemptible slander. His opponents in public life were always ready to meet him face to face on the platform or on the floor of the House of Commons, and try to drag him down, but it was left for Dalton McCarthy to utter the meanest and most contemptible slander against a man whose memory the communities were vying with one another to show respect to. It was Mr. McCarthy who had said of Sir John Macdonald, after the latter's death, that he was a fraud before the people of the country, that he had never believed in the National Policy, and only held by it as a means of keeping in power. He thanked God that the record of Sir John Macdonald was

A COMPLETE REFUTATION

of Mr. Dalton McCarthy's charges. Reverting again to the tariff, the speaker said that the tariff of 1856 had been due to the state of things which had confronted us in the United States; it was equal, under the then existing circumstances, to that which now existed, and under it the country had prospered. Mr. Gilmour, at Ottawa, at the convention to which Mr. Laurier had so often alluded, had given away their stand when he said that he had seen a good many free traders, but in every instance their aim had seemed to be how not to get it. The argument used by Alexander Mackenzie had been that they needed twenty-four millions, and that they could not get it if they were to increase the tariff—in other words, that an increased tariff would stop the imports, and they would not be able to raise the necessary revenue. Could they trust these men? They must remember that when they had advocated reciprocity at the last election, they had said it was the only possible antithesis to protection, and that the only way to get rid of protection was by continental free trade. Mr. Laurier was on record on that point, and in the house in 1888 he had repeated that the solution of the problem lay in trade to the south, although he fully appreciated how such a statement would be regarded in England. His inconsistency had been again noticeable in the French treaty, when he had spoken against it in the strongest terms, and then voted for it. In 1891 it was continental free trade, and now in 1895 they were face to face with a tariff that no man in the audience could define. (Continued applause.)

MANITOBA SCHOOL QUESTION.

Sir Charles proceeded to deal with the allegation that the government did not know their own minds on the Manitoba school question, or dared not avow what their opinion was. He wished them to remember that the present government, like the government of Sir John Thompson, fully counting the cost, had resolved long ago, and still intended to maintain, that the constitution imposed upon them a judicial duty. They would sink the politician in the judge, and would not for the purpose of currying favor or gaining votes forget that while they occupied that position it would be most indecent for them to endeavor to ascertain the public mind, or to discuss the question from a political platform. While some in this country were induced to resort to a most injurious course, either for one side or the other, and to advocate extreme views—ultra Protestant views on one side and ultra Catholic views on the other—and to talk about the effect of those views, the audience know that to the credit of the Conservative party, not considering whether they lost support or not, they stuck to their duty, and if the term was approved of, remained dumb. But they counted the cost, and knew that they must face the people of the country not only in regard to the discharge of their judicial, but their political functions as well. But they relied upon the people to proceed with the consideration of such troublesome and difficult questions in due order and in decency. It was an extraordinary reflection upon the Liberal party that to-day the Liberal-Conservative party were indicted for resorting to the courts under the machinery laid down by Mr. Edward Blake when leader of the Liberal party. (Cheers.) Where either religious or race questions were concerned he wished to God, as a young Canadian, that they might use the courts for all they were worth. They knew what respect there was for the judicial tribunals in this country and of the Empire, and if they could solve any part of such questions by

A JUDICIAL DECISION,

then he was ready to go in for such solution. Therefore, he said, it would be well if Mr. Laurier would follow the principle he laid down in one part of his speech in Massey hall, and endeavor to keep this question out of the political arena. If sincere in the statement he had made, why did Mr. Laurier wish to taunt the government when they were simply performing their duty in a decent manner? "As soon as the decision of the Privy Council is on this side of the Atlantic," said Sir Charles, "just as it has already done, the government will proceed to give it its calm, deliberate consideration. When that consideration is given, they knew, as well as Mr. Laurier can tell, they must assume political responsibility, and must be tried at the bar of public opinion, and we are not in the slightest degree flinching from our duty, but, spite of taunts, spite of jibes and political considerations, we will maintain a dignified silence till the time to speak has come. And when that time comes, I trust you will find the Conservative leaders, whether they have lost their genius, whether they have lost their brilliancy, just as true to the traditions of the Conservative party in every province in Canada as they ever were, ready to stand by the constitution and by what it teaches, and we are willing to abide by the verdict of the people." (Loud cheers.) In concluding his address, Sir Charles assured his hearers that, come what might, they could rely upon it that the policy that had enabled Canada to make a boast during the period of depression of 1894 which no other country in Christendom had made or could make was the policy by which they would stand until the death.

ORIENTAL WAR.

Foreign Ministers at Pekin Making Preparations For Their Own Protection.

All Parties Connected With Defence of Wei Hai Wei to Be Beheaded.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—A private cable message was received in Washington to-day from General John W. Foster, ex-secretary of state and special advisory counsel to the Chinese government in the peace negotiations with Japan, stating that he had arrived in Shanghai from Japan and was in perfect health. It is not known what General Foster's plans for the future are, but it is supposed that he will remain in the Orient until something has been accomplished in the overtures for peace.

LONDON, Feb. 16.—A Shanghai dispatch says England and Russia have offered to mediate between China and Japan. It is reported at Shanghai that the foreign ministers at Pekin have ordered the guards assigned to the various legations to report at once.

It is reported at Chefoo that the Japanese have granted freedom to all the foreigners captured at Wei Hai Wei except the American Howie, who was arrested at Kobe some time ago in connection with the Chinese plot to blow up the Japanese fleet. After his release on parole he went to Wei Hai Wei, where he was engaged in a plot preparing an explosive to destroy the Japanese fleet.

A Shanghai dispatch says ex-Governor Wang has been appointed to relieve Li Hung Chang as viceroy of Pechili, in the absence of the latter as peace commissioner in Japan. The Emperor has ordered the beheading of all officials, civil, military and naval, connected with the defence of Wei Hai Wei.

A dispatch to the Pall Mall Gazette says Chinese Commodore Lieu and General Chang committed suicide at the same time that Admiral Ting killed himself.

A Chinese dispatch says the magazine of the Saracen fort at Takao was exploded, destroying the fort, killing 50 and injuring many. The explosion also damaged a number of houses and injured many inmates.

U. S. FINANCES.

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—Of the $22,000,000 gold deposited in New York and other cities $1,000,000 has been deposited out of town, at San Francisco, Baltimore and Boston. The $10,000,000 deposited in the legal depositories—the First, Park and City National banks and the Bank of Commerce—to-day represent principally the gold holdings of these banks, which were taken from the bank accounts and credited to the government account, subject to the disposition of the Treasury department. It was reported on Wall street, although the managers of the syndicate declined to confirm the report, that the syndicate has sold $30,000,000 bonds to a member of the syndicate, and none of the syndicate members will take any of this gold from him. All the members of the last syndicate who withdrew gold from the sub-treasury have been carefully excluded from the Belmont-Morgan syndicate.

WINNIPEG'S BONSPIEL.

WINNIPEG, Feb. 18.—(Special)—The final game in the big event of the Winnipeg curling bonspiel was played to-night; It was for the New York Life challenge cup, and R. H. Dunbar, of the Winnipeg Thistles, was the winning skip by a score of 17 to 9 over J. W. Shaw, of the Winnipeg Granites. Fortune and Verner, of Winnipeg, take third and fourth prizes. The Galt trophy cup goes to J. W. Smith's rink of Regina. Kelly, of Brandon, won the consolation cup. The finals for the international trophy are between McKenzie, of the Winnipeg Thistles, and Rochon, of Fort William. There are still several games to play in the Walkerville competition.

BEHRING SEA CLAIMS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—When the general deficiency bill comes up for discussion Breckenridge will offer an amendment asking for an appropriation of $425,000 for the payment of all claims made by Great Britain for damages in connection with sealing in Behring Sea. Among the appropriations authorized by the deficiency bill is $50,000 for the enforcement of the Chinese exclusion act.