

ation, but in the end matters will mend themselves and truth and honour prevail in the nation as it does in the majority of its individual members. During the last session at Ottawa, charges of wholesale corruption were flung broad-cast, with a view to injuring the Ministry which was supposed to have been weakened by the death of its great leader. That result has certainly not followed. But it has been proved lamentably true that a number of civil servants have used their positions of trust to commit various irregularities, and in some cases perpetrate black-mail, while the department of Public Works has apparently for some years past been under the malign influence and control of a set of cormorant contractors. This however is all. Public opinion is sound, the Dominion Government firm and exemplary in its punishment of offenders—high and low—and with the new regulations coming into force, our Civil Service will soon regain its reputation for purity and efficiency. How different it has been, and probably will be in the future, from that immense band of 100,000 appointees with total salaries valued at \$100,000,000 who are removable every four years in the United States under the "spoils system," may be gathered from the following description by Senator Pendleton (Dec. 13, 1881):

"The name explains it. The name opens to every thoughtful man, nay, to every man who will see, even without thinking, a vision of wrong, injustice, brutality, wastefulness, recklessness, fraud, speculation, degradation of persons and of parties, which has driven from public life much of the cultivated intellect and refined morality of the country, and fills even the most hopeful mind with sadness for much in the present and grave anxiety for the future."

The policy of the past in Canada has thus been, as a whole, patriotic and British in its inception, and Imperial in its progress and development. The great highway across the continent and the wide aspirations of Sir John Macdonald were alone enough to stamp it with such characteristics. It is well to remember, also, that Canadian protection does not discriminate against the interests of the United Kingdom, all products being taxed alike from