

purser economic life and decenter politics may arise. Heaven only knows what may happen there, but even if the country were brought to the verge of economic ruin, if everything of the wealth of these over-protected industries went under and out of it, and Canada started again with a clean slate, poor but honest, it would be worth while."

That is an English view. It is difficult to dispute its correctness.  
(Hear, hear.)

### LET US BE MEN.

But I do not despair so long as my countrymen manfully and with set purpose face the facts. I have painted an awful picture. I have done it deliberately, because it is true. (Hear, hear.) We had a goodly heritage, but we acted with it like the younger son. We gathered all together and went into a far country. There is no fatted calf for us. Our revenue does not come nearly meeting the most urgent expenditure. But give me an educated and aroused public opinion in West Peterboro, and in this Province, and there are no devilish machinations of any political force that can long keep this country out of the hands of honest administrators. The people are hungering and thirsting for honest government. What would this Dominion not now give for a day of George Brown or Edward Blake? How the welkin would ring! We all must take our share in the serious responsibilities of the hour—in selecting a leader at Ottawa. I believe the convention will meet with but one object in view, and that no personal considerations of any kind will cloud the issue. It is needless to say that the leader will be honest, clean, wise, patient and courageous. The field to choose from is not limited. And out of this morally polluted political atmosphere that stamps the Ottawa Administration there will enter an era in which there may be a dawn of hope. But this can only be if we prove our patriotism to be of the highest type. (Applause)

