

long to be submitted to its vote. The Session closed with the customary grants of railway subsidies, pushed through as usual when it was too late for consideration, though the Government must have known its own intentions at a much earlier day. What was by no means customary was the patriotic protest entered by a Conservative Senator against an expenditure which has reached scandalous proportions and which he truly describes as a "gigantic system of bribery." Senator McCallum demands an earlier submission of the grants in order that the Senate, which he describes as a body independent of local interests and claims, may be enabled to do its duty to the country by deliberate inquiry and discussion. Such undoubtedly is the Senate's duty, but Mr McCallum forgets that three-fourths of the members are the nominees of a single man. His protest was of course voted down, and the "bribes," as every one knew them to be, passed.

—When there is a surplus it is the plain duty of the Government to reduce the burdens of the people. Instead of this the Government of Sir John Macdonald piles on new taxes, not in the commercial interest of the community at large, which there is hardly a pretence of considering, but for the purpose of buying certain political interests, and thus securing its own tenure of power. At the same time a similar measure is passed with the same motive by the party in power in the United States, which is itself under the control of the Protectionist Lobby. Thus not only the burdens of both communities are increased, but the Chinese wall between them is for the sinister objects of intriguing politicians raised higher than ever, and the people on both sides are more than ever debarred from the free interchange of their products and from reaping the natural fruits of their industry. For a time things have come to a worse pass than ever. But we are not without hope that the darkness of monopoly which seems so thick may be the darkness which precedes the dawn. Decidedly in the