

two ridings of Oxford, almost immediately adjoining you—the city of Woodstock and the important town of Ingersoll, with an export trade of millions, for thirty, or twenty years at any rate, have received no consideration from the hands of the government. I say we would have been previously to blame, and I say there was no ground for censure, but it is to our credit that when we came into power we repaired these things; when we came into power we saw that justice was done and fair play was given to that very considerable section of the population which in times past had not supported a Conservative administration.

But, sir, Mr. Foster and Mr. Macdonald and several more of the gentlemen are particularly grieved at the huge amount of Mr. Tarte's estimates. Perhaps you would like to know, and the audience would like to know, what Mr. Foster was prepared to expend in the year of grace 1897. I have here Mr. Foster's main estimates, in which he asks for one million five hundred and seventy-six thousand dollars for public works, and I have here also Mr. Foster's supplementary estimates, which he did not bring down, but which fell into my hands afterwards, where Mr. Foster asks or was prepared to ask for a further sum of \$2,422,610. So that in 1897, Mr. Foster, taking his main and supplementary estimates together, saw his way, a general election then impending, to ask for public works chargeable to income the sum of \$3,998,610, and yet Mr. Foster thinks that Mr. Tarte is profligate, that he is extravagant, that Mr. Tarte's estimates are of unexampled dimensions. Mr. Tarte may be all that, but his estimates were about \$1,000,000 less than Mr. Foster was prepared to bring down under like circumstances. I have not time to go through all of them, but if my newspaper friends wish it they can have these supplementary estimates and publish them in extenso. I will give them to you, however, in brief.

The Hand of Tupper.

In Nova Scotia the hand of Tupper is very visible. For harbors and piers alone that province was to have got \$648,890—and remark, gentlemen, and this bears on what I stated with respect to the starvation of the service in the past—of these no less than thirty-four items were for repairs. They are often marked as urgent repairs, as repairs that were imperatively needed; in other words, in 1896 the service had been starved, and no less than thirty-four separate items for repairs, according to Mr. Foster's own statement, required to be made in the year 1897. In New Brunswick there was to have been given \$167,000, in Ontario \$423,000, in Quebec, \$271,000, and in Prince Edward Island \$107,000, and that, mark you, for piers and harbors alone, the facts being as I have stated with respect to the sum total of the estimate.

Mr. Foster Appalled.

Another charge of Mr. Foster's that I desire to deal with is this, and he has put it on record in this motion I have in hand—Mr. Foster is appalled at the huge charges which we are making at this moment for ordi-