

fact that in no constituency, as far as heard from, could a hopeful opposition be raised to the return of any of the new Ministry. The public conscience so decidedly condemns the transactions in connexion with the Pacific Railway, that hardly any respectable candidate could be induced to run in a cause which, however remotely, appears based on a justification of Sir John's corrupt proceeding. The name of Liberal can galvanize, but cannot give life to any party whose object is to overthrow those who have brought about the condemnation of such criminal proceedings as those proved against the late Premier. In process of time, no doubt, failings and short comings may accumulate against the party which has assumed the reins of power, and then the liberal camp may hope to regain what they have lost, but at present, and till the new Government has been tried and found wanting, no respectable opposition can be mustered. Corrupt as is a large portion of the electors, debauched as they have become through the influences which have been brought to bear upon them, we are glad to see that the great body of the constituencies is still true to their conscience. In this is our hope. We may feel confident that however much inclined the party now in power may be to pursue the ways of corruption, they will for years to come be deterred from such a course, by the terrible retribution which has fallen on Sir John A. McDonald and his party. We hope that never again in the history of the Dominion will such a lesson be needed. Politicians of every colour will be led to assume a virtue if they have it not; to be honest through policy; and to know that there is no secrecy which may not be pierced, no finesse which can certainly conceal, when they would enter on a dishonest traffic with unprincipled speculators, or a corruptive commerce with the debased consciences of their constituents.

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SPAIN has got into further trouble, with civil war at home and rebellion in her chief dependency. She has become embroiled with America and that by a cruel, if not an illegal act of those who represent her in Cuba. One of her vessels of war took in the act of carrying arms and comfort to those in rebellion, another vessel the *Virginus* sailing under the American flag. Whether this flag really covered an American vessel, or whether the capture was made on the high seas or in British waters, are points which can be known only after investigation. If the vessel were a pirate; and if she were taken on the high seas, she was a lawful captive and subject to condemnation, and the lives of her crew legally forfeited. But even in that case the proceedings were surely both hasty and cruel in consigning to death the whole of the men employed. Still, the legality of the capture granted, we can see no reason for the interference of the United States in the matter. If it should appear, however, that the capture was illegal, Spain must make ample reparation or suffer the retribution of a war