

Leduc this afternoon? For Mr. Leduc was elected. But there was a war, a battle royal, between two companies for railroad subsidies. When the First Minister went down he said, amongst other things—well, he did not go so far as to promise out and out that a subsidy would be granted, but he said to the assembled electors substantially: You all know that if you wish favours from the Government in the way of a subsidy for your railway, it is better for you to send a supporter to the Government than an opponent. Now, Sir, the right hon. gentleman is wrong in that statement. He, as the Prime Minister of this country, has no business so to promise the people's money—that is what they always called it before. It is not so much looked upon as the people's money now, it is the Government's money. The franchises of this country are rapidly becoming the possession of the Government to be doled out as the Government wish, being fully persuaded that by proper appliances they can induce their obedient followers to register the decrees which they in secret conclude ought to be carried out. But, Sir, to take the people's money and go down to an independent electorate, and to stand as the Prime Minister before that electorate and say: If you want a subsidy you yourselves know it is better to send a supporter of the Government than an opponent—it is virtually taking the public money and promising it to his party for the sake of getting a supporter in this House. What shall we say with reference to the Minister of Public Works? So much is to be said that I dare not enter upon that fertile field of investigation very far this afternoon. But the Minister of Public Works had a bad half hour at Lévis during a certain political turmoil down there, and he argued bravely and waited patiently, and by and by the only way that he could bring his audience was to say: Don't you want elevators here in Lévis? A cry went up from all quarters, Yes, yes, yes. The Minister knew how to do it. He goes down and publicly promises them elevators, speaks of his friend the Minister of Railways, how disappointed he is that he is not there with him to see what could be done in the way of public works for Lévis. These Ministers are paragons of purity when in opposition, but apostles of corruption when once they have got possession of the Government benches and of the public treasury. Yet they have kept all the pledges they gave to the honest electorate of this country. Surely the hon. member for Centre Toronto owes this House an apology for such a statement. I shall say nothing of numerous others, but I am inclined to call as witnesses some hon. gentlemen from that side of the House, and some supporters of the old Liberal party. There sits the hon. member for East Assiniboia (Mr. Douglas). Does he believe that the Government have im-

plemented all their promises? Has he had any conversation since Friday last with the member for Centre Toronto? Have no heated passages occurred between them? The member for Centre Toronto, having revised the tariff on protectionist lines, says that the Government has implemented all its pledges; but the member for East Assiniboia, speaking to his constituents, declared a few days ago, 19th January:

We, in East Assiniboia, are not wholly satisfied on the tariff changes. I have, however, often stated that a government cannot sweep the whole thing away in a year or two. The Conservatives would have been very pleased to see us do it, for it would have created such a panic that they would have swept the Liberal party out of office.

What an admission. If the Liberal party had been true to their pledges and brought their legislation on, it would have created such a panic that, in the opinion of the member for East Assiniboia, and he is right, it would have swept them out of office.

Instead of doing that, we have begun by cutting off a few inches at a time of the dog's tail, and by and by we will get to the body.

Never, my hon. friend from Assiniboia, will you get beyond the last outward tip of hair on that dog's tail, except you march over the dead body of the hon. member for Centre Toronto. That tail is a long tail, and there are many, many hairs at the very end of that tail, and you have not plucked out one yet. And before you get to that dog's vulnerable body you will be many, many years older than you are today. So there is one hon. gentleman who does not think that the Government has implemented its pledges. Near him sits another, if my eyes do not deceive me, the good-looking member for Lisgar (Mr. Richardson). Now, Sir, the good-looking member for Lisgar—who, I see, acknowledges the compliment—owns a paper, and he has been giving loose to western ideas in that paper, of which here are some:

If the Liberal Government yields to the pressure that is now being brought to bear by prominent Liberals at Ottawa to have the duty on binder twine, which, according to legislation last session, will be entirely wiped out in a few months, retained, it may as well make up its mind to fully capitulate to the protectionists, for, with the exception of barbed wire, it will then have been practically abandoned every free trade or revenue tariff outpost which was occupied by the party for so many years.

That is very good, but here is something better:

From the literature which the Liberals circulated prior to the election, we expected to see the duty on agricultural implements entirely swept away, but instead of that the implement manufacturers are placed in a better position than ever by a reduction in the duties on the raw materials which they require.