

the knee to the political or millionaire Baals in order to retain his place, may well exclaim with the Hon. Edward Blake, "God help poor Canada." Any young country containing only five millions of people whose economic condition has been so disrupted and overturned as Canada's by political and millionaire spoilsmen, that a few hundred millionaires conspiring with politicians have taken to themselves at least one-third of the nett wealth of the country. I say, any young country thus envired by spoilsmen, I fear requires a stronger arm to protect it, than the impotent arm of the Canadian politician of the last twenty years. It seems to me that the people of Canada have been very much at fault in not laying their grievances by petition before the British Government many years ago and before the country had been reduced to a condition hardly worth contending for as a home for a self-respecting people. It is not by any means too much to say that legislation and government in Canada for many years have been little less than a conspiracy among politicians, millionaires and officials to despoil the people and enrich themselves, and the success of the conspiracy has certainly been unprecedented. Whilst the larger fields and larger possessions controlled by Dominion politicians have given greater scope to the greedy, unscrupulous spoilsmen connected with the late Dominion Government, what intelligent, independent, honest Liberal in the Province of Ontario, who has watched the trend of political life in his own Province can point the finger of scorn at his political opponent, in discussing the purity or venality of the political life of either party in this Province.

For about forty years after the rebellion of 1837 all of the great constitutional principles which go to make responsible government, and all of which were conceded not long after the rebellion, were from year to year, and decade to decade, defended, guarded and perpetuated by the old heroes of liberalism in Upper Canada, and for a few years in Ontario. The MacKenzies, Baldwins, Brown, the Blake's and other old liberals guarded their principles with an heroic vigilance and persistence worthy of the men and the cause. The spoilsmen cut no figure with the old heroes of liberalism in this country.

How has it been for the last twenty years under the leadership of Sir Oliver Mowat? Unhappily is it not well known that every one of the principles advocated in the press, on the platform and in parliament, for nearly forty years after the rebellion, have been from time to time violated and cast aside by the new brood of liberals in Ontario of which Sir Oliver Mowat, until recently and for over twenty-three years, was the leader and chief incubator. All constitutional