

of protection, and is the sudden bolt of Hon. Mr. Tarte in the nature of a revolt against a movement as yet only foreshadowed in the utterances of the Grit press. From the latest tones of these comments it looks as though Mr. Tarte had forced the hand of plotters who have in view nothing less than the overthrow of the tariff and a return, if not to free trade, to tariff for revenue only. The mere difference of opinion between the two ministers as to whether the policy of protection should remain as it is, or that the Government should go a little further, hardly accounts for the virulence with which Mr. Tarte has been attacked in the columns of the leading Liberal newspapers for voicing his views. It was more like the embittered vituperation of foiled conspirators, whose plans had been thwarted, than the grave and temperate reasoning of a party press with, let us say, an imprudent member of the Government in the absence of the Prime Minister.

"That appears to be frank enough. The free trade cranks did not think the country would stand for a reversal of policy when the Liberal party came into power, but now, as times are prosperous and people in better temper, they think the occasion opportune to throw protection to the winds and go back to a tariff for revenue only. Here is the proposal made in cold blood by a paper that is recognized as the mouthpiece of a minister for Ontario, and the utterances of other leading Liberal organs, though more or less veiled as yet, bear a similar construction.

"The large majority of the people of Canada are protectionists. The prosperity of Canada is founded upon and guarded by protection. What guarantee of permanence is there, or ever has been, for that policy in the hands of its avowed and determined opponents? They have made concessions to the exigencies of the situation, as the Star says, but in their hearts they are not in sympathy with it, and it would appear that when the exigencies of the situation permit they are ready to undermine and overthrow it."

MAIL AND EMPIRE, Oct. 4th, 1902:

"With increasing violence is the campaign against Canadian industry conducted by the free trade wing. There can be no doubt that the struggle was precipitated by the war-like declarations of Mr. Sifton at the last Liberal convention in Winnipeg. After apologizing for the moderation of the tariff reductions so far made, Mr. Sifton sounded the free trade slogan, and pronounced, as a Western man, against the Eastern worker. Already the defence of the Eastern enemy had been reduced by a compromise between the protectionists and free traders in the Government. While the present duties might not be heavy, that, nevertheless, was no reason why they should not be lighter. If the Eastern industries could not live under the present tariff, the sooner they shut up the better.

"Mr. Sifton's cue has been accepted by his faction in and