

a poor woman having had to kill and roast a cat to keep her children from starvation. This story having been challenged by the *Chronicle* of Quebec, *L'Evenement* returned to the charge, and stated that the story was actually true. It proceeds:

"For three or four months we have called attention to the destitution which desolates some districts of our city, and have appealed to public charity. And, we repeat it the destitution in Quebec is greater this winter than it has ever been. It has been given to ourselves to enter certain houses, and to see little children of a year old and less dragging themselves along the bare cold floor, naked, absolutely naked, whose mother tried to hide their nakedness by snatching them up and half covering them with her apron or a fold of her dress. There was no fire in the house. In a corner stood a dirty bunk serving instead of a bed. The night before, these poor people had sapped on a mouthful of dry bread, and that morning, the meagre provisions of the evening before being exhausted, nobody had breakfasted. They would have to go dinnerless and perhaps supperless.

"One may be certain that there are a large number of people (*foule de gens*) who go without food for days together. These poor people have seen better days when they dispensed charity themselves. This is why they do not and will not beg, and why it is hard to find them out."

Here we find that in the City of Quebec, one of the most important manufacturing centres in the country, a paper supporting the Protectionist policy of the Government—a policy which was to bring about returning prosperity—states that people are as necessitous and as deserving of assistance as the people of Ireland. To show this is no mere supposition, the same newspaper goes on to state:

"The generous movement in favour of unhappy Ireland meets with our most profound sympathy. \* \* \* There is destitution in Quebec, there is the same in Ireland. \* \* \* The members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society have done impossibilities hitherto, and now their resources are nearly exhausted. The number of poor who have asked relief from it this year is twice as large as last year."

I infer from the article that they based their application for sympathy to Ireland on the fact that the people in Quebec know what starvation is themselves. I think it would be much more correct, as far as the people of Quebec are concerned, if this resolution would state that, in consequence of the profound distress in many parts of Canada, our sympathies are warmly excited for people in the same condition in Ireland, and that we ought to afford them some relief.

MR. CASEY.

MR. CARON: I am quite surprised at the deep interest which my hon. friend takes in the famine-stricken people of the city of Quebec. The hon. gentleman has told us that his information came from a paper which formerly supported his party. I have no doubt that the gentleman who wrote that article was simply intending to crack a joke at the expense of the hon. gentleman who at present takes such a deep interest in Quebec matters. I do not represent the city of Quebec, but I live within its walls. I am largely engaged in business there, and I may say I have better opportunities of observing what is going on in our city than the hon. gentleman, who gets his opinion from the newspaper formerly supporting his party. We always have, of course, in a large city like Quebec, more or less poverty at this season of the year but I can say, and I believe I will be borne out in my statement by every gentleman acquainted with the city, that in the city of Quebec this winter we have not had to deplore as great distress as last year or the year before; consequently my hon. friend is mistaken about the effects of the National Policy in Quebec, and I am sorry that he should be disappointed in his endeavours to make a point against the Government about its adoption. As for aid to Ireland, I agree with what the hon. gentleman (Mr. Jones) has said. I believe it is our duty to help the people of Ireland in their deep affliction and distress, and I have no doubt that the Government will take proper measures to render assistance as quickly as possible. In extending a helping hand across the waters to the Irish, Canada should act in a manner worthy of herself, and worthy of the position she holds as containing within her borders so large a proportion of Irish people who have helped to build up this country.

MR. PLUMB: I had no intention of taking part in the discussion of the Address which has been so ably moved and seconded, and which meets with the hearty approval of the large majority of the members present. I have been much gratified to observe that the proposition to afford aid to the suffering people of Ireland has been received with marked and cordial approval by both sides of the House, and that a consensus of feeling and a generous spirit is manifest with re-