OTTAWA LETTER.

The Cook Charges' Investigation By the Senate.

Pewerful Speech By Mr. Monk, of Jacques Cartier.

A Severe Arrangement of Mr Blair's Extravagant Management of the Intercolonial Railway.

OTTAWA, March 27.—Reference has been made in several letters to the differences of opinion existing among liberal members as to what policy is best suited to the general development of Canada. Since the debate on the budget speech opened nearly two weeks ago, those who spoke from sterial surroundings hardly The found to be free traders, protec nists and revenue tariff supporters considered somewhat of an authority on saw logs, had occasion to move "that, in the opinion of the house duties should be levied upon lumber imported into Canada corresponding with those now existing upon lumber entering the United States." Mr. Bennett is a convative and of course a strong prosurprising that he made a strong na-tional policy speech, in the course of which he pointed out that many adrould accrue to lumb vantages would accrue to lumbering

It is hardly possible that Mr. Benhis innocent proposal, but it had some-what the same effect as a fire brand in a powder magazine. It stirred the liberal party to the lowest depths and carried some of its supporters back to the days when they were assuring constituencies, in all parts of the country that free trade was the only balm this down-trodden dominion. How they iamented. It was almost path-etic to hear some of them talk free trade and that sort of thing. It was interesting, too, to note the restless looks that came over the countenances of the several ministers who had to listen to this wide and somewhat remarkable divergence of opinion.

In dealing with so many surprises it is a little difficult to determine just where to commence and just where to end. But perhaps we cannot do better than to take a passing glance at the opinion as expressed by the redoubtable John Charlton, the member for North Norfolk Mr. Charlton one of the gentlemen wh was foren in the struggle to hand Canadian m sets over to Uncle Sam, but now he not only a protectionist, but he is what Sir Wilfrid Laurier would term a "stalwart of the stalwarts." Mr. men of Minnesota are the men who are responsible for the enforcement of the lumber duties in the
United States. He therefore is anxfous that these gentlemen should be
brought to terms. Much of the lumber

brought to terms. Much of the lumber

tection, with a prospect of being uitibrought to terms. Northwest used in Mantoba and the Northwest is imported from Minnesota. So Mr. Charlton proposes to impose a duty on American lumber which would bring United States to their senses. If his advice is followed out, he says that any future negotiations that may take place between this country and the United States will be carried on in ernment. Last year we actually bought from the United States \$2,000,000 worth of lumber and farm products more than we sold them, but our establish a good feeling with United States

Then came a denunciation from Mr. W. C. Edwards of Russell, which must have made Sir Wilfrid's sunny ways aimost drop to freezing point. Mr. Edwards is a lumberman whose interests are said to be large. He is also one of the old liberals who still talks free trade. Today he finds that the government is blinding the farmer with a nost of pretences which they ced on the free list and allowed to into the country without any deration being given to anybody

hen Mr. Walter Scott, from West infloia, took a hand in and sup-Assimbola, took a hand in and supcorted the government in its policy of
revenue tariff. He sees indications on
the part of the government to prune
lown the duties to the lowest possible
margin. Mr. Scott must have an intide view of the situation, because notody else has seen the fiscal policy
of the liberal party in the same light
hat he seems to have seen it in. Of
course he is a new member, and that
hay be one reason for his confidence
to those who are directing the affairs

part in the West Huron election scandals have given him an introduction to the people of Canada which, if not destrable, has been effectual. Mr. with the people is connected with the lowering of duties instead of raising em. He is sorry to see the gov ent side of the house are drifting mony with protection princonnection with ciples, in connection with speeches on the budget. He ne note of warning to Sir Wilfrid and is colleagues, and tells them that the cople in this country will not stand to much of the broken pledge busia policy of

of the broken pledge busi-considers the policy of proand those who follow it up are often called upon to excuse themselves for the errors into which they fall. Mr. Holmes wants a cheap country to live in, and therefore wants everything that will tend to decrease the cost of living, while he has not evitable the cost of living. dently considered the market which he must lose at home by the closing down of the factories, in the many entres which are depending upon

a man over whom even the suave pre-mier has no influence. Mr. Richardon has broken away from his party in the past, when he considered they were in the wrong. And in consequence during the last election he found himself a straight liberal, opposed most bitterly by the government heelers in his own constituency. But the people of Lisgar had faith in their clever young representative and their clever young representative and so they have him once more to fight battles, feeling, as th that in him sincerity is not lacking. What Mr. Richardson desires to know nost is something definite in regard insists that it would be well for Wilfrid Laurier to frankly tell cople of Canada what he proposes do in regard to maintaining the present high protection. Quoting from a speech of the Hon. Geo. E. Foster, he finds that the government reduced the 35 per cent tariff of the liberal consequences. servative party 71-100ths of one per cent. He also ascertained that Mr Martin, a liberal, at a meeting in Winnings, showed that the reductions amounted to less than one per cent; and then he told the house of Mr. Paterson's estimate that the decrease had been two and a half per cent.

ed to be hypercritical of the policy adopted by the government, he is dis-appointed in regard to their broken pledges. Speaking as the representa-tive of a western constituency, he desires to see something more nearly sires to see something more nearly ap-proaching free trade. But when Mr. Sifton and Mr. Tairte and other min-isters have announced that the pres-ent tariff is to be a fixture, Mr. Richprotection, body and bones. Being a young man of strong opinions in re-gard to free trade, he feels that he has placed altogether too much confidence in the promises held out by some of the ministers. But he hopes to see things righted and the Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier brought back to the paths from which he has strayed. Let us hope for the benefit of Canada that in this fond wish Mr. Richardson may in this fond wish Mr. Richardson may be disappointed, for it must be appar-ent to every sensible person that whether it was intentional or not on the part of the government, they were wise when they stumbled into their present protective system, undesirable as it may be.

the promise held forth by the Hon. Davis Mills, and endorsed by the premier and Sir Louis Davies, to the effect that the liberal party would reduce the cost of running the machine four or five million dollars per annum? Mr. Richardson believes that not only can five million dollars be saved, but that eight million dollars would be nearer the figure, if proper economy were practised. He did not attribute the good times which we have enjoyed during the past four years to any acts of the government, but to Providence. Unfortunately in the time of plenty the government had been altogether too lavish in their expenditure and the day would come when deficits would have to be faced. He believed with ex-President Cleveland that a public office is a public trust, and he believed that the government should direct that trust to the best advantages of the country. Will the government be likely to adopt Mr. Richardson's suggestions?

OTTAWA, March 28.—Mr. Monk the member for Jacques Cartier, is a man who commands the attention and ince, and it is said of Mr. Monk that he as a gentleman by birth, education and inclination. Therefore it is not surprising that he should be one of those who are born to lead and not to follow. In its selection of Mr. Monk as the first lieutenant of the conservative party, the opposition have made no mistake. He has seldom addressed parliament during the present session, but on those occasions on which he favored the commons with his opinions, he was given a hearing which denotes deep interest on the part of its members. Such a speech was that which Mr. Monk delivered on Tuesday in reply to many efforts on the part of government followers to bolster up the budget speech.

able to occupy several hours to the advantage of his party and the country. One of the things that structure. ment side of the house, was the great diversity of opinion that existed there. He referred at some length to the opinions expressed by different members, to which reference was made in the previous letter. Then he turned to the record of the mi and commerce, and co mpared that a today with eht of opposi rd asked the a policy for the govern ok thought that it was strange did, to an opposition fresh from the did, to an opp votes of the people. To bob up parliament and place in the hands

the government a policy was a

ter more for the government than for the members of the King's loyal opntage that Mr. Monl licy of the admi been spent by this administration, sir Richard Cartwright had gone to the country and promised in the most foncible language that he would ob-tain a reduction of the public debt. Where are we today in that regard? The expenditure has increased by lions of dollars each year and nister of trade and comm ot raised his voice in opp In the days of his opposition he for-mulated that policy known as that of the patrons of industry, but that policy seems to have been forgotten in the immense expenditures that have fol-lowed. Another of his pet schemes is the total and complete independence of parliament, but that has been buried with the rest since the government has assumed the reins of office. Anmatter that Sir Richard to talk about was the system of giving contracts for public works without tender, but when the minister of maring and fisheries said, the other day in his own dutcet tones. "you cannot expect us to depart from the principle that we must help our friends while we are in office," Sir Richard Cartwright has done as the proverbial oyster that grows and flourishes in Sir Louis Davies' own province. Considering that Sir Richard has been unable to carry out his own policies, it does seem a little absurd that he should endeavor to attend to plans arranged by others.

Glancing at the public expenditure for the past year, Mr. Monk found cause for alarm. The total expenditure for all services was \$51,000,000, an increase of \$7,000,000, or an increase per capita upon the people of Canada of over \$1.63. The only excuse the of over \$1.63. The only excuse the government sought to make for their extravagance was that they had a surplus. But the people of Canada are no longer to be blinded by surpluses concected for political purposes. They vicious policy and hide their real in-debtedness. Taking up Mr. Blair's programme of expending large sums from capital account, in order to show minster of railways was not alone in this matter. Mr. Tarte in his con-struction of the Yukon telegraph lines had made an outlay of a quarter of a million dollars. Glancing over the items which made up this total, Mr. Monk found that drinking cups, pis-tols, ammunition, eider down quilts, were matters which, according to Mr. Tarte's idea, should be paid for out of capital account. Every tenet of common sense and every sound business principle had been ignored in this system of carrying on the affairs of the country. Yet the minister of trade and commerce was as quiet as a lamb and aw nothing but virtue in this scandalous transaction. On the Intercol-onial the government have wasted money on many useless schemes. They erected the elevators at St. John and Halifax, but were unable to use them to any degree, and if the cost of main-tenance was considered it would be found that the grain handled in these buildings had cost as much as if it had

In the Yukon a most unsatisfactory from the outset gross mismanagementhas characterized Mr. Sifton's admin has characterized Mr. Sifton's administration. When the Yukon rallway was proposed the minister of the interior threatened the members to the left with dire regrets in the future who ventured to oppose that scheme. This was one instance where he had been blocked in his incapacity. It seems that in the Yukon there were some \$200,000,000 of gold in sight, and yet most of that was allowed to be taken out of the country by foreign aken out of the country by foreign adventurers. In his own province of Quebec Mr. Monk could scarcely name a person who had derived any advan-tage from that great natural wealth. Manipulators and speculators had been allowed to come in from all parts of the world and Canada had been able

at the doings of W. T. R. Preston, who has been inviting other heathenish sects to come and settle in the great prairie lands of Canada. We have, in Mr. Monk's opinion, had a sufficiency in our experience with the Doukhobors. These people were brought to the country and given lands which might have been covered with far more acceptable persons. Their appeal to the nations of the world against the laws of Canada shows them to be a people who believe in communism. Their habits and morals are a menace to Canadians. The leading papers which support the liberal the budget speech.

Are a menace to Canadians. The leading papers which support the liberal
party are crying out against this outpoints during the course of his remarks which were not advanced by warning. With the British Isles, Ger-

rch of races of which we know ab solutely nothing. Canada has reached that stage when her lands should be preserved for her own sons, who will be able to make homes for themselves and to build up communities which will result in national growth such as we desire.

Looking at the progress we have made during the past years in trade and commerce, Mr. Monk found much discontent. Throughout the orld a great wave of prosper d been felt. It was the great of the liberal party when in opthat as soon as they got into ada would have the benefit markets of the United States out so far they had done absolutely ing to keep that promise, and not moved in any other diection in order to find markets for our natural and manufactured products. The government was anxious to know where the opposition stood on the trade matters. They could find in the amendment moved by the leader of the opposition considerable infor mation on this point. One of the fea tures of the policy proposed by the rvative party was its provisions e of trade with At the present time prac-ry nation in the world is in ically every nation in the world is in a position of hostility in respect to Canada. Ask the government to jus-tify their policy and they refer to the preferential tariff granted to Eng-land. Now this preference is costing this country \$2,000,000 per year. That is the sum that is practically taken from the pockets of the people of Canada and given to the workmen Yorkshire as a bonus. Mr. Monk's contention is that in arranging a fiscal policy, the side which interests Canadians should be first considered. The government, in his opinion, seemed altogether too anxious to assist the British workmen, while with equal eagerness they neglected our,

When hon, gentlemen of the opposi-tion had advanced the idea of mutuality in preferential arrangements with the mother country, they have been laughed to scorn by members of the government. The liberal press has een stating that any person who moves in that direction does not know what he is talking about, and that there is no hope that the present con-dition of things will change. Mr. Monk desired to know how the gov ernment had reached this conc In his experience he had not hear that they had made any effort to lead public opinion in England in regard to Ottawa and were content to look on while England reaped the harvest and Canada paid the piper. It may be true that public opinion in England has not moved in the direction of a content of the direction of the content of the mutually preferential trade. But Mr Monk has every faith in the ability o olicy would be in the interests no only of England and Canada, but the Empire at large. Lord Salisbury, ter the convention which took place in Ottawa in 1894, had expressed his be lief in the feasilibilty of the princi of a mutually preferential tariff. Mr. Monk urged that instead of sitting quietly and discouraging those who are willing to work with this end in view, the government should get out and preach the gospel of mutual preferential trade. If the people of Eng land cro not ready to accept such propositions now, when will they be

gramme is followed? OTTAWA, March 29.-The Cook charges, which were the source of so much controversy during last October and November, have at last been ven-tilated. The present session of parlia-ment may be said in all fairness to be an unusually quiet one. There has been little to interrupt the even tenor of members' ways, little to excite con-troversy of a startling character, or little to induce strong party feeling on either side of the house. Two months of this life rather welcomed months of this life rather welcomed something which might cause a little ripple of excitement; and this effect was produced by the enquiries of the committee appointed by the senate to receive Mr. Cook's evidence and that of such witnesses as he might be able to produce in support of his correlations. The sittings of the committee were largely attended in every instance. In fact, the small querters provided for the use of those engaged provided for the use of those engager in carrying on the deliberations were altogether inadequate to the demands made upon them.

With the conclusion of the enquiry With the conclusion of the enquiry, so far as the offering of evidence is concerned, there is every opportunity afforded of considering in the broadest possible sense the case made out by Mr. Cook. That he has succeeded in proving beyond a shadow of doubt that he was justified in making the charges is substantiated by the evidence taken. There can be no question that Mr. Cook was approached and asked to contribute \$10,000 to the campaign funds of the liberal party, and that he was led to believe that in turn he would secure a senatorship that he wanted and worked for for years. On the other hand, it cannot be said that wanted and worked for for years. On the other hand, it cannot be said that he implicated any member of the government, with the exception of Sir Richard Cartwright, in the conspiracy. He produced no evidence to show that any gentleman besides Sir Richard Cartwright had anything to do with the matter. On this point Mr. Cook swore positively that a letter written by Sir Richard Cartwright had heen produced by Mr. Cameron, which demanded that he (Cook) should do something. The something was, according to Mr. Cameron's interpretation, the payment of \$10,000 in return for what the government would do in the way of favorably considering Mr. Cook's claims for recognition to the vacancy existing in the upper house.

But before dealing more fully with the merits of the case, it might be well to first consider the method of pointment of successors to deceased or retired senators. When on oath,

judgment and made his own selection, ment. In Mr. Cook's car there was evidently a very great ference as to whom the ministers should receive. Mr. Cook had evidently a hard time of it, for he was led to believe on several different occa-sions that the appointment was as good as made, so far as it concerned him. And then, after some little time nad elapsed in each case, he was rewarded, not with a senatorship, but a note from Sir Richard Cartwright, Mr. Cameron, or the premier, informing him that somebody else had more pull,

was richer, or was considered more suited to the requirements of the party in the senate. It was a story of double dealing which has seldom been brought out in any enquiry of the kind. Considering that Mr. Cook by his own admission has contributed sums as high as \$10,000 to a liberal campaign fund, and has invariably paid his expenses in all his own pol-itical battles, it certainly seems that preciation of his efforts in their bechildish way. Perhaps it was that Mr. Cook had been too dependent, but finally the worm turned and turned

It seems rather a pity that a dead man should be brought into the case because it seems hard that the mem-ory of the dead should not be respect-ed. Then, too, Mr. Cameron is unable to deny anything that may be said to his discredit. But in his allegations as to the conduct pursued by Mr. Cameron, Mr. Cook had corroboration of sufficient strength to establish be-yond the probability of contradiction that Mr. Cameron offered to exchange a seat in the senate for \$10,000. Not only did he make the announcement in the presence of Mr. Biggs, who at that time was Mr. Cook's solicitor, but he also referred to it in a conversation with Mr. Cook's son-in-law, Henry McDonald. Then, too, there is the in-terview with Sir Richard Cartwright in his office at Ottawa, where Mr. Cook made the statement that he had cook made the statement that he had been approached by Mr. Cameron and asked for \$10,000. In his direct examination, Mr. Cook was most positive in his statement of facts in this regard, and still remained firm when cross-examined by Mr. Blake in a mose severe manner. But Sir Richard Cartwright was not willing to swear positively to the details in connection with Mr. Cook's visit at the time this announcement was made. He did not care to state on oath too many of the particulars in connection with the convensation between himself and Mr. Cook, but he did positively deny that any part of which he was not clear had any reference whatever to any estion which might have as its effeet the handing over to Mr. Cook of a senatorship in payment of \$10,000. When recalled to rebut this part of the evidence of the minister of trade and ommerce, Mr. Cook not only reaffirm ed everything that he had previously said, but he strengthened his remarks by announcing that the incident was probably more carefully fixed on his mind than it would be on Sir Richard's; and he gave it as his reason for holding this opinion, that to him nothing in connection with his search for the senatorshp had been forgotten. In Sir Richard's case it was quite differhis brain with such matters, and in the attention which he was called upon to give to state and other matters, it

Another matter which has an important bearing on the case was brought out in the evidence of Mr. Biggs. Senator Ferguson, who has a rather judicial mind, seemed to follow the evidence very closely. He cross-examined several of the witnesses and the evidence very closely. He crossexamined several of the witnesses and
was able to bring out some interesting points. In the course of his remarks Mr. Biggs related the particulars of the interview in Toronto between himself, Mr. Cameron and Mr.
Cook. At one stage of the negotiations Mr. Biggs and Mr. Cameron had
a conversation as to why Cook was
not eligible for the senatorship. Mr.
Cameron explained that Cook had not
been to the liberal party all that he
had represented himself. Cook was
referred to as having not been generous enough in his assistance of other
candidates during election contests,
and as having been disloyal in the
matter of the election of Mr. Drury,
who was minister of agriculture in
the Ontario government under Sir Oliver Mowat. Continuing his evidence
on this point, Mr. Biggs stated that he
had approached Sir Oliver Mowat,
when that gentleman was minister of when that gentleman was minister of justice in the dominion cabinet, on behalf of Mr. Cook. Sir Oliver had referred to Mr. Cook in language very referred to Mr. Cook in language versimilar to that used by Mr. Camero at the Rossin house interview. would therefore seem that either Solver Mowat or Mr. Cameron in been in very close relations in regato Mr. Cook's appointment, or the by a most remarkable coincidenthese gentlemen had hit upon decidedly similar terms of glying expression to the same thoughts.

The letters written at different time in 1896 to 1898 form an important the in the chain of evidence placed before

in 1896 to 1898 form an important link in the chaim of evidence placed before the committee by Mr. Cook. In these epistles, some of which abound in street corner expressions, important references were made as to underhand methods which might be employed in securing senatorships. One of these communications from Mr. Comeron to Mr. Cook sets forth that although other persons had a better chance in the race than the principal witness in this enquiry, there was one way by which the tables might be turned in his favor. Mr. Cameron, while enunciating this proposal in while enunciating this propos





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guarded language, declined to express himself in a definite way. He wrote Mr. Cook that he would meet him at a later date, when the whole matter would be fully discussed and cleared up. Sir Richard Cartwright was asked to place an interpretation on the phrases, but declined to do so. Again, Mr. Cook, after Mr. Cameron abandoned him, was reminded that he (Cook) had had the cards in his hand, but neglected to play them. These significant expressions, pronounced by Mr. Cook to mean that \$10,000 would have to be paid for the senatorship, take unto themselves a strength which is very important in summing up the evidence. Certainly they were not intended to convey the impression that Mr. Cook had not devoted sufficient time to the party, for Sir Richard Cartwright expresses himself as highly satisfied with the services rendered by Mr. Cook up to the time that he found himself duped by the liberal party. Sir Richard also claims that Mr. Cook had on account of his political opinions been made a victim by Sir John A. Macdonald in certain timber grants held by Mr. Cook in the west. Nor had Mr. Cook's financial distance to his party been insignificant. He had been one of the largest contributors in Ontario, but even his unbounded generosity seems to have failed to satisfy the greed of those to whose interests he had devoted the best part of his life.

devoted to W. T. R. Preston of "hug the machine" reputation. Mr. Cook ffice in Toronto and repeated the offer of Mr. Cameron in regard to the senstrengthened by an allusion he made to the conversation which passed between himself and Preston, to Henry Handcock, his bookkeeper. Mr. Hand-Preston in anger and displayed considerable indignation in regard to the improper proposals made by the former grit organizer. It is only fair to the machine man was not enhanced by Mr. Cook's opinion of him. Mr. Preston was referred to as the general buffer of the liberal party, and a man with whom Mr. Cook would not care to associate. And Mr. Cook, it must be remembered, as one of the banner liberals of Ontario, can claim a knowedge of the working of the inner machinery of the working of the inner machinery of the grit camp. Subsequently, when he was called to refute some of the statements of the machine hugger, Mr. Cook fiatly denied the truth of every syllable of Preston's evidence, and declared with dramatic force that Preston had sworn falsely throughout hroughout.

Summing up, it is found that Mr. Cook has been positive in every important allegation that he has made in portant allegation that he has made in regard to the charges advanced by him last October. After a severe cross-examination by the counsel for the defence he remained unshaken in his testimony. His evidence was corroborated by three reputable witnesses and by circumstantial evidence set forth in any letters placed in evidence. We must also conclude, no contradiction having been made, that Mr. Cook conother the d. It was made the medium of a disg empt to secure money a composes. That this effort work of the government as a matter or which the coun-congratulated. But the ditical ent the s of this free and enlightened young nation will be inclined to look upon the transaction in its best light as something which will reflect on its public life. Unfortunately the witness who would be able to clearly place the responsibility has been removed beyond the control of human tribunals. Dead men tell no tales, is a maxim which the government may have cause to be thankful for, or cause to regret. But it will ever be remembered that at least an effort and a strong effort was made to block an enquiry which has nation made to block an enquiry which has resulted in even justice to all con-cerned. J. D. McKENNA.

LOCAL

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Answers to Que Bridge Matt position

The Grant to the Pay for the Board - To Aid the Agricultura

FREDERICTON, hous@met at 3 o'clo from the committee recommended bills

amendments. Mr. Osman said the public account going on very slow that there would be

relating to the to which was read a s The bill changing liam Tisdale Davis Tisdale was agreed The house went i the bill renewing ation of the Grand F Mr. Laforest wishe

plication was made for the renewal of t Mr. Porter said the bout expiring, and t ing intention of go work wished the char Mr. Laforest said ortant measure. s one of the fines continent, a property any would like pany had done manifested any ything. The peop nd Victoria desired developed. We are country by giving f nies for simply lso objected to re-e n the parliament pe. By coming promoters of thi that their act valid. Why do oper bill before t uld like to see some benefit of the lu ch suffered so ing broken and de and Falls.

fr. Osman said aired to expend hin three years, uld be void. Th alty. The men are interested in pap no doubt will go on power. We should w Mr. Hazen said the Mr. Laforest were sidering. This compact of incorporation

bringing in a proper to re-enact legislation They got legislatic standing that they their work. They h and they have prev from doing anything. are now becoming of to use them for spec No work has been do stead of going to the ment, they come to It looks as if they s sell their franchises. have we that they w next two years than in the last six? Edv the incorporators, legislature is asked. The dominion act de must be approved by council. Why should asked to pass such a matters over which of New Brunswick h Hon. Mr. Pugsley r Laforest found fault lation. He believed ture was as careful could be in the ena This bill had been un mended by the comm Mr. Hazen—I am a committee and I did meeting for which the commended.

