

which had been engendered in British Columbia by the long period permitted to pass before beginning work on the Canada Pacific Railway.

Mr. Mackenzie restored confidence in the good faith of Canada by agreeing to carry out the suggestions of Lord Carnarvon, with which the Columbians had declared themselves satisfied, and the House of Commons has ratified and approved of his action.

By the adjustment of the tariff, and the increased duty placed against the importation of those manufacturers which compete with the manufacturers of our Dominion, a feeling pervades the country that the important interests of our own manufacturers will neither be overlooked nor jeopardised; and since the Government has imposed duties against such foreign products higher than had been imposed by any previous Government, agitation on this subject has not been active.

The addresses to you, issued by those who are rivalling Mr. Wood and myself in seeking your suffrages, cast no reflections upon the policy of the Government which we have supported, nor upon the measures which have been passed, and it might fairly be inferred that between the two sets of candidates personal considerations only were at stake.

My political opponents, however, have adopted one subject and one tune, and that tune they have sounded with a loud blast.

Their arguments are, that as we are the manufacturing centre of the Dominion, we should advocate a judicious system of protection, and that a patriotic policy with regard to industry would undoubtedly benefit the country.

These arguments are somewhat vague—they may mean anything or nothing—no plan being suggested as a practical limit of the extent of protection required, nor the class of measures necessary to develop what may be meant by a patriotic policy.