

SIR JOHN MACDONALD'S AMENDMENT.

[On the 12th of March, 1878, the House resumed the adjourned Debate on Mr. Cartwright's proposed motion:—"That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair, for The House to go again into Committee of Supply,"—and the motion of Sir John A. Macdonald in amendment thereto, that all the words after the word "That" be left out, and the following inserted instead thereof: "it be Resolved, That this House is of opinion that the welfare of Canada requires the adoption of a National Policy, which by a judicious readjustment of the Tariff will benefit and foster the Agricultural, the Mining, the Manufacturing and other interests of the Dominion; that such a Policy will retain in Canada thousands of our fellow countrymen, now obliged to expatriate themselves in search of the employment denied them at home; will restore prosperity to our struggling industries, now so sadly depressed; will prevent Canada from being made a sacrifice market; will encourage and develop an active interprovincial trade: and moving (as it ought to do) in the direction of a reciprocity of Tariffs with our neighbours, so far as the varied interests of Canada may demand, will greatly tend to procure for this Country, eventually, a reciprocity of Trade." Speaking to this amendment Mr. C. C. Colby, M.P., for Stanstead, delivered the accompanying speech:—]

Mr. COLBY said: I deem it a fortunate circumstance, and I think the country will hail with satisfaction the fact that the two great political parties have at last found an important, living and vital issue, upon which they can fairly and honestly divide and upon which they can rest their respective claims to public confidence. I think I am not wrong in saying, that for the first time since we became a Dominion, has such an issue arisen. In the main, the two great political parties have been in unison upon those great measures which have been initiated and carried on since the Confederation of the Provinces. There were differences, for instance, with respect to the construction of the Intercolonial railway, but not with regard to the principle involved, both parties agreeing that that railway was a necessity. There were differences with regard to the acquisition of the North West territories; but they were differences of detail, differences as to the terms upon which they should be acquired, not as to the policy of their acquisition. So with respect to the acquisition of British Columbia; there were differences with regard to the terms upon which it should be acquired, but upon the principles involved, all parties in this country were substantially in accord. It is matter for regret that the parties which have been arrayed against each other in political warfare, have not

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