

for the three arbitrators, who were friends of mine, that whether their judgment is right or wrong it is.

### A Mere Piece of Waste Paper.

And if a trial for murder in the territory in question came up, and the question arose as to whether the crime was committed in Ontario or Manitoba, the award would not decide it, no Act passed either in Toronto or Ottawa would decide it, and the murderer might get off on account of the uncertainty of the decision. (Applause.) Now at the time the case was brought up for discussion in the House of Commons at Ottawa I was ill, and was confined to my house, but when I heard that the discussion was on I went down and lay on a sofa in the Parliament House, waiting to see whether Mr. Blake—who is a first-rate equity lawyer, though knowing very little of Constitutional law—would risk his reputation as a lawyer by defending the award and declaring it valid. Gentlemen, he dared not do it. (Hear, hear.) He was silent. (Hear, hear.) He left that to Mr. David Mills. And who was he? A member of Parliament who was supposed to fight the battles of the people, but who was the hired servant of Mr. Mowat, from whom he had received money to make out a case against the Dominion. Mr. Mills spoke of the long brief for which he was paid—I do not know how much—from Mr. Mowat.

A Voice—\$3,400.

SIR JOHN MACDONALD—But Mr. Blake did not venture to get up and defend the award; for, as a lawyer, he could not do that. (Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, we do not vary from our position on this matter. We say the Dominion does not want, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba and British Columbia, do not want one inch of land which belongs to Ontario. All we want is a proper settlement of the question. Where is the line? (Cheers.) Why, if the whole North-West belongs to Ontario, Ontario has a right to it, and that, gentlemen, is the simple question.

### What the Opposition are Keeping Back.

But I have to tell you another thing which Mr. Mowat and the Opposition have kept secret—that not a single acre of that land belongs to the Province of Ontario, and I will tell you why. You cannot quite easily understand it. The land belonged, so far back as the grant of Charles II. could give it,