

would be to say that Mr. Pooley should abandon his law practice, or that Mr. Turner should retire from the position which he holds as a merchant. What had occurred appeared to be that he placed himself in the hands of his solicitors there, and in making the statement of what he had to sell appended his name and official titles in full. If he had left out his offices, this very fact would have covered the whole affair with suspicion, for business men would ask why this James Baker appeared to be anxious to conceal his identity—why if the business he was engaged in was a straightforward one he should not disclose his official titles. He had already shown that the practice of ministers of the Crown in England and in Canada and elsewhere is to give their titles in full on such occasions. The names of SIR JOSEPH TRUTCH, a former Lieut.-Governor; SIR CHARLES EUAN SMITH, and the EARL of DENBIGH, were a guarantee of what is right and honourable. Their names would not be sullied with what is wrong.

The so-called "PERVERSION OF TRUST MONIES" was made a matter of arraignment of the Government by Mr. Beaven, who quoted the funds in connection with the Shuswap and Okanagan and the Nakusp and the Slocan Railways, the intestate estates and the suitors' funds, and arrived at the conclusion that "those kind of people who found their way into the penitentiary might call this a surplus of revenue but he could not think that the members of the Legislature could be made to believe it." Now the fallacy of this reasoning, or what would be fallacy if there were any sincerity in it, which there is not, is that it treats the Government as if it were a Municipality—bound to keep each expenditure under its own head. Under the Statutes governing these cases the Government is constituted the banker of the funds, and required to deal with them accordingly. It has to make interest on them and so of course must use them; and it was therefore impossible that they be kept as separate accounts and withdrawals paid from time to time out of these identical monies. Until 1890 these suitors' funds used to remain in the Government's hands without interest. Then was passed the "Suitors' Fund Act," requiring payment of everything into the treasury, and section 9 provides that the moneys shall bear interest, which they cannot do unless the Government uses them. It is a case of paying in and out every day, so the idea of a special deposit, which would involve money being kept three months at least if to draw interest, is out of the question. Mr. Beaven's contention, if there was any sincerity in it at all, would involve him in this that the money is to bear no interest. Though at one time, before the "Suitors' Fund Act," or "Intestate Estates Act," had been passed, when the Government had no right to use this money, yet Mr. Beaven did

use it, and at the election of 1875 it was a cry against him—merely an election cry, he was bound to say—that he had "not only plundered the living but robbed the dead."

HON. MR. BEAVEN—One of your cries, I suppose.

HON. MR. DAVIE continued that at that time he was not of an age to be much mixed with politics, but he had already told the House that he believed the charge was not a just one. The point, however, is that Mr. Beaven is now complaining because the Government has done by legislative authority what he did by no authority at all. So it is in the matter of the railway funds, which it is intended shall be used by the Government to give it whatever advantage is thus derivable and to avoid to this extent the necessity of making loans. Mr. Beaven had next told the House that he expects that the

"I. O. U.'s OF MINISTERS"

are to be found in the treasury, when he knows that in the exercise of the privilege accorded him he has been ransacking everything there, and would have been the first to discover any irregularities had they existed, and to have reported them. This insinuation is somewhat akin to the slime of his organ, which insinuates that there are other moneys besides salaries and their travelling allowances which ministers have received, but which are covered up somewhere. He knows there can be none, that the accounts are on open book there. While the slime and insinuations cast on those who are alive carry their own condemnation, and, like a boomerang, rebound upon the man who would heap up such transparent slander, there are other slanders which call for more severe condemnation. Mr. Beaven told the House that on one occasion when he assumed office as Finance Minister, he found in the treasury safe "I. O. U.'s from the ministers of the Crown down to the messengers." The only occasion to which he could have referred was when he (Mr. Beaven) took office in 1878. He would like to ask if there was any I. O. U. there from Mr. Vernon, who was a member of the Government to which Mr. Beaven succeeded in 1878, and is now a member of this Government.

HON. MR. BEAVEN took his head.

HON. MR. DAVIE continued that the other members were Messrs. Elliott, Smithe, and Ebenezer Brown, all of whom had been dead for years, but in their lifetime such an accusation had never been made against them.

HON. MR. BEAVEN—It has been discussed here over and over again.

HON. MR. DAVIE said he had been in the House since 1882, but had never before heard a hint of such a thing. He wondered that the hon. gentleman was not afraid now that the dead would rise from their graves