

result of the elections. His supporters found that the Washington Treaty, the North-West Troubles, and the British Columbia Terms were heavy burdens to carry. The first was called disloyal, the second bungling, and the last unconstitutional. But with all these odds against him the result proved that Sir John Macdonald's star was still in the ascendant. It was true Sir George Cartier was defeated in Montreal and Sir Francis Hincks was routed in Ontario, but the Ministry apparently still possessed the confidence of the people. When the House met majorities ranging from 16 to 35 testified to their success at the polls. The ship of State, manned by Captain John A. Macdonald and his crew, seemed safe for another five years' cruise, unless something unforeseen should happen. There was a torpedo ahead, and should it explode the ship would be blown to atoms, but it might be avoided. It was being fast approached; superhuman efforts were made to steer clear of it, but they were futile. It was reached, and the explosion came; its success was complete. The Pacific Scandal need not be detailed here. Suffice it to say that an Opposition anxious for power became, in some way (best known to themselves), possessed of evidence of so damaging a nature that no Ministry could stand