

the Liberal party, have to take it out of our pockets. It does not come, as in the case of the Conservatives, out of the public treasury, as shown in many an instance. This is why the Conservative party, after the general election, had less controverted elections than the Liberal party. Is it a pure party, that which like the Conservative party expended, in 1887, in 22 counties of the district of Quebec, \$117,000 robbed from the country? Is it a pure party, that which is composed of robbers such as are Larkin, Connolly & Co.? Is it a pure party, that which caused scandals to be given such as those I have referred to? Scandal of the commissions given out of the purchase of the plant of the Printing Bureau, amounting to \$50,000. Scandal of the Curran bridge, amounting to \$122,000, when the fair estimate of its cost made by the commission appointed by the Government amounted only to \$160,000, while the expenditure incurred by the Government reached \$430,000, making a net loss to the country of \$270,000. Party of pure people, that which is composed of men who caused to be made four revisions of the electoral lists, under an Act passed for the purpose of disfranchising our people; revisions which cost the country the enormous sum of one million dollars. Party of pure people, that which is composed of men who gave us the scandal of the Sheik's Island wharf, which caused to the country a loss of \$125,000. Party of pure people, that of the men who built the Little Rapid locks, which, according to the specifications, was to cost to the country \$44,000 only, while the actual cost was \$200,000, with unpaid claims to the amount of \$90,000, or a difference of \$256,000 beyond the price fixed by the specifications. Party of pure people, that of the men who built the Tay canal which, according to the specifications, was to cost \$132,660 only, while its actual cost amounted to \$476,123, or an excess of \$343,463. Party of pure people, that which raised an election fund, afterwards refunded by means of a subsidy of \$25,000 to the Lake St. John Railway, as admitted by the hon. the Postmaster General. Party of pure people, that which built the St. Charles Railway Branch, extending over a distance of fourteen miles, the cost of which was estimated at from \$130,000 to \$140,000, but the actual cost of which reached the sum of \$1,750,000, or over one million dollars in excess of the actual cost of this railway branch. Party of pure people, that which caused the country to suffer all these losses and gave all these scandals. But I will, perhaps, be told that this party is one that punishes the robbers. In what way, Mr. Speaker, does it punish them? In 1891, a member of this House was driven away from it for having taken part in a conspiracy with a view to defraud the public treasury. A Minister was compelled to resign as such in consequence of one of the scandals. Pro-

ceedings were taken against the company charged with this conspiracy to cause it to refund the sum of \$600,000. After four or five years, the Government settled this case for the sum of \$100,000, and they accepted a claim for \$45,000 on account of this amount. And at the time of the Kingston election, an account of \$43,000 was paid to these same people against whom the Government had taken these very proceedings. Party of pure people, that which, after driving away this member charged with conspiracy, made their candidate of him and caused him to be returned to this House. Party of pure people, that which at the very moment I am speaking, is pressing this member to vote for the Government. Party of pure people, Mr. Speaker, that which allowed all the scandals I have just referred to, and which is willing to be a party to others still, provided it profits by them and be kept into power. But we have at last, it appears, the satisfaction to know that the country is prosperous, the manufactures flourishing, and that there is 75,000 of them in the Dominion. I will give only one word of reply to such an argument, for no voter who knows what is going on is not aware that the number of manufactures, compared with what it was in 1878,—and they were true manufacturing establishments at that time—is not larger now than formerly, and I am satisfied that there are no more manufactures now than in 1878. In the town of Sorel, where I live, we had more manufactures in working order in 1878 than we have now, and at the very moment I have the honour to address this House, our paper mill has likely closed down. The shoe manufacture which was subsidized to the extent of \$15,000 by the town municipality of Sorel, had to shut down. But if there should be so many manufactures in the country, if the country should be prosperous, why should the trade, which in 1874 represented \$58 per capita, have fallen to \$53 in 1883, and to \$46 in 1895, according to the admission of the hon. the Minister of Finance? In the face of such results brought about by the National Policy, what is to be said? We must have a change, and the country is now in favour of such a change. As soon as the governing party will give them a chance to pronounce themselves, I am satisfied the voters will know how to drive them away from the treasury benches, and punish the authors of the robberies and scandals committed under this administration and through their ruinous policy. We must have a change, and the change the country is anxious for is the one proposed at the Liberal convention held here, in June, 1893. It was attended by men of all classes, creeds and races. The Liberal party of this country met in convention in this town about two years ago and put a platform before the Canadian electorate. Contrary to the contention of our opponents, when coming into