

spoke of what he called that hon. gentleman's redundancy and prolixity. He said that human nature, in such cases could only endure. He declared that my hon. friend had nothing but words to offer, idle words, and that some day he would be brought to account for all these idle words which he had spoken. Mr. Speaker, there are some words which are worse than idle words, namely, false words. My hon. friends opposite may criticise idle words, or those which they call idle, but they had better do a little introspection and find out what penalties in the present and in the future are laid against men who speak false words, men who gain advantage by pledges they do not keep, by promises they repudiate. The right hon. gentleman said that adjectives were a large part of the vocabulary of the leader of the Opposition, that he had more adjectives than ideas. That is the fault of most of us—that we have fewer ideas than words; but Heaven help us if we have no ideas at all. My right hon. friend must not criticize too harshly the only stock in trade he has. He gives us to understand that he regards the five hours' speech last night as the vapourings of a disappointed man. Well, Sir, he is welcome to that opinion. But I would rather be in the position of one who talks and is disappointed—even granting that for the sake of argument—than to talk a little less long but to occupy the place of a man who, though not disappointed, had disappointed every elector who had trusted to his promises. He declared that my hon. friend took these whole five hours to seek out the weak spots in the armour of the Government. Oh, no; it requires no diligent search to find these weak spots in the armour of hon. gentlemen opposite. Their whole armour is a tissue of weaknesses; it is open at every joint, so that even the most inexperienced criticism can easily find openings and dull darts can very easily pierce them. He said that the leader of the Opposition went into Huron, that he had been found to be a man of idle words and weak deeds as shown by the results in that county. If the leader of the Government is satisfied with the

result in Huron, gentlemen on this side of the House certainly have no reason to complain. In a bye-election, with two Governments, the most partisan, the most shamelessly partisan that Canada has ever seen in Dominion and in provincial politics—with one exception in regard to provincial politics, which I may deal with later on—with the patronage of these two Governments used openly, shamelessly, persistently, notwithstanding the high pretensions, aye, even under cover of the vaunted innocence and purity of the leader of the Government, and the no less vaunted purity of the hon. gentleman (Mr. Tarte), who sits behind him—with all this, the result was that the majority which the Government enjoyed in that constituency was brought down from 317 in the general election to 117 in the bye-election. If the leader of the Government is satisfied with that as an indication of public opinion in the Dominion, I think we on this side may be satisfied as well. The hon. gentleman assumes too much. No man, however sudden his rise, however high he may be, is exempt from criticism in this country. Then my right hon. friend, belauded though he has been, bedizened—democrat though he is—until scarcely an inch of his democratic clothing can be discerned for the high and aristocratic ornaments he bears, must not think that all this singles him out in Canada as above criticism and beyond the exercise of the judgment and intelligence of this country. Particularly when he makes as many blunders as he has, he must expect to be criticised, and he might as well look pleasant about it instead of getting angry. He took the credit of the Opposition to task because, as he said—he did not prove it nor did he hope to prove it, he simply declared it—my hon. friend (Sir Charles Tupper) took credit for having created Canada. Now, while that is entirely without proof on the part of the right hon. gentleman, one thing can be proved, that at a certain time in a certain city many miles from this, my right hon. friend declared that he went to bed one