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New York, N.Y.

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## Campaign Opened.

### Conclusion of Mr. Gregory's Speech in the City Hall.

And then we had

The Speech of Mr. White.

I will go over that very briefly, because I find the time intended to allow myself has expired, and it is not fair to my friend, Dr. Alexander, who has come here to kindly assist me [Appl.] that I should occupy all the time [Shouts of "Go on, go on."] Mr. White is the minister of the interior, or as Mr. Wetmore, the chairman of the meeting said, he preferred to know him, "Tom White of the Gazette." Well, now, in order that you may be in a position to attach due weight to what Mr. White said I will just remind you that Mr. White is the gentleman who in his paper, the Gazette, when he had been cornered up in a little bit of departure from the truth, declared—

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[Laughter and Appl.] Or to put it a little plainer political exigencies demand that he should tell an untruth where the political exigency demands it. [Appl.] I am almost inclined to leave him with his own little commentary as to what political exigencies would require and demand him entirely from consideration. But there are other good reasons why Mr. White should be particularly anxious to receive the vote of the people. He said that he had been to the editor of the Gazette, that he was no longer the proprietor of it. Well, sir, this is what I find stated and it has not yet been controverted. The independence of parliament must not allow Mr. White to be proprietor of the Gazette and retain a seat in the government, so a stock company was formed—

"Mr. White's family, and during the last three years this company, that is the White family, received no less than \$64,000 for government advertising and printing, and as Mr. Somerville proved in the house of commons in one case at an advance of 20 per cent beyond the price actually paid for such work. So that not only does he take it, but he takes it at an advance."

The Political Exigencies of a Party may warrant a little untruthfulness, but it seems that in three years these political exigencies have been alleviated to the extent of over \$60,000 in the case of Mr. White, which he would naturally like to have continued. [Appl.] The Gazette company has also received a contract from the government for five years to furnish steam power for the electric light in the post office, the adjoining building, at an annual charge of \$7,000, which is more than the cost of the furnishing power for the entire lighting system in many towns in Ontario. Mr. White has a new drawing \$300 and a brother-in-law \$300 in the civil service. So you see that the ample reason for Mr. White's great anxiety that this government should be sustained, and if political exigencies will warrant him in telling an untruth, you will surely not take much stock in what he here says on that case. [Appl.]

But Mr. White did another thing. He took it upon himself to excuse—I call it excuse—Mr. Foster for dabbling in timber lands, and he says that Mr. Foster, realizing his position after he made his application was no further. Now the charge that has been brought against Mr. Foster is that Mr. Foster, in fact the members of the cabinet from one end of it to the other, availed themselves of the knowledge they possessed and the power they had to use to themselves and their friends at the public expense. Mr. Foster made an application for a timber limit of five square miles, and Mr. White told us that there was nothing unfair about it, that Mr. Foster might just as well have made an application for timber lands as anybody else. Now, I hold this to be a fact recognized, I think, in all law, a fact which the most uneducated conscience will recognize, and which the most uneducated conscience will recognize. If he had this use to himself and his friends, and over again by Mr. Blake in the house of commons in his most brilliant speech, Mr. Foster was not occupying the position of a trustee, he is public or private, should so far and absolutely refrain from meddling with the trust committed to his hands, that it is utterly impossible to suspect him with any infidelity or impropriety in connection with this trust. In private life no man occupying the position of trustee is allowed to deal with property which he is entrusted with as his own, or perhaps even in a short time an immense fortune. But, says Mr. White, you ought not to deal heavily with Mr. Foster because he did not go far in the thing, he did not carry it out. Well, the reason of that is that it was pointed out to him or putting it bluntly because he was caught. [Appl.] But Mr. White says the reason he did not do it was because he realized his position, that he would have to pay \$250 and build a mill, and finding he had to assume the responsibility of the thing he dropped it. Well, that does not at all excuse the intention. Certainly Mr. Foster was not doing this with any other purpose than the purpose of making money. He could not be suspected of any intention to go into the milling business, but from the fact of being obliged to lose the \$250 or run his chance or as he says because he was caught, he abandoned the enterprise. His connection with the matter reflects no particular credit upon him, nor upon Mr. White who assumes the role of apologist for him.

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He says it was very good and that we have no reason to complain of that management, and that when we charge the dominion government with bringing about the rebellion and as the ultimate result, the execution of Riel, we make an unjust charge against them. To that I would just reply that what Mr. M. C. Cameron, in the house of commons, made a most formidable charge against the government. He arranged them and produced evidence piece by piece from the public records and documents which

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liberal government and therefore they should be charged with incompetence. Well I find that in the British Empire trade diminished during these same years that it fell away with us to the extent of £20,000,000 sterling—that the trade of Great Britain diminished in round figures \$240,000,000. I find also that according to the clearance house which is a better indicator, there was £1,080,000,000 less passed through the clearance house in the year 1878 than 1871, and that also shows the great and widespread diminution of trade. "Ah," they say, "very good, but you must not compare Canada with Great Britain because the latter is a free-trade country and of course it might fall off there." We say "very well, turn to the United States which is particularly the country we should follow after." What do we find. During that same period I find that the

Trade of the United States Diminished to the extent of \$25,000,000. Does not that establish the fact that the diminution of the trade was in no degree chargeable to maladministration by the liberal party. The depression was universal, and I say now, because I do not wish to take undue credit to myself, I admit now that it only supports the truthfulness of the position we took in 1878 when our party was voted out by reason of the depression of the times, which was that it was not our fault, the depression was universal, and I wish to give them credit for the very same argument, because the same thing is applicable to-day in their case. I grant that since 1871 there have been some things to their surprise and making defects that the same thing, the same state of trade in to be found both in the United States and in Great Britain. So that if only goes to support this contention with reference to the liberal government, that the fair inference and fair argument is that trade all over the world was depressed and that whatever of depression there was was attributable to the depression of the times, and not to the liberal government. But if it was attributable to the liberal government what can our opponents say of their own administration after the vote of the people. [Applause.] Mr. Cameron, as soon as that pamphlet was published, issued a challenge to Sir John A. Macdonald asking him at any time or place to meet him and on any public platform he would discuss and prove whether his assertions were garbled and incorrect, but up to this moment Sir John Macdonald has not taken up that challenge. [Applause.]

I will now speak of the great speech of the evening, what was put forth at the great and stirring speech of that occasion, the address of Mr. Foster where he called attention as he said to the great decrease of trade in this dominion under liberal rule, where he called attention also to the financial condition of the dominion and claimed that the country had suffered in the hands of the liberal party. Mr. Foster said that the savings bank had a surplus of \$1,000,000, and came out at the end of five years with a surplus of \$1,000,000. Well, now, suppose we did, what is their own condition? While it is true they had a surplus for a little while, yet we find that after accumulating a surplus of some \$1,000,000 in 1881, they have now

A deficit of some \$7,000,000

of \$8,000,000. So, what if the liberal party in their five years of office did convert a surplus of \$1,000,000, into a deficit of \$1,000,000? Have they not outdone that when they have converted since 1881 a surplus of \$14,000,000 to a present deficit of something like seven or eight millions? [Heard, hear.] Put the record alongside of the other and who has entailed the burden of the debt of the people, if it is to be withheld simply upon that ground? Again he says that in the period of five years before the crisis of 1890, the deficit was \$1,000,000 while during the last term the deficit amounted to \$5,000,000. Well, the answer to that is similar to the answer to the other. Now, I hold this to be a fact recognized, I think, in all law, a fact which the most uneducated conscience will recognize, and which the most uneducated conscience will recognize. If he had this use to himself and his friends, and over again by Mr. Blake in the house of commons in his most brilliant speech, Mr. Foster was not occupying the position of a trustee, he is public or private, should so far and absolutely refrain from meddling with the trust committed to his hands, that it is utterly impossible to suspect him with any infidelity or impropriety in connection with this trust. In private life no man occupying the position of trustee is allowed to deal with property which he is entrusted with as his own, or perhaps even in a short time an immense fortune. But, says Mr. White, you ought not to deal heavily with Mr. Foster because he did not go far in the thing, he did not carry it out. Well, the reason of that is that it was pointed out to him or putting it bluntly because he was caught. [Appl.] But Mr. White says the reason he did not do it was because he realized his position, that he would have to pay \$250 and build a mill, and finding he had to assume the responsibility of the thing he dropped it. Well, that does not at all excuse the intention. Certainly Mr. Foster was not doing this with any other purpose than the purpose of making money. He could not be suspected of any intention to go into the milling business, but from the fact of being obliged to lose the \$250 or run his chance or as he says because he was caught, he abandoned the enterprise. His connection with the matter reflects no particular credit upon him, nor upon Mr. White who assumes the role of apologist for him.

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