

law, has been violated as well as the privileges of this House.

#### GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY—RETURNS.

Mr. MITCHELL. I should like to ask the hon. First Minister if he has that little document at hand with respect to the Grand Trunk Railway, I think he has got it in his desk, and he might as well place it on the Table.

Sir JOHN MACDONALD. Yes, I have had it in my desk, I got it yesterday, as I told the hon. gentleman, that is a letter from Mr. Hickson to me, and a resolution of the board in England confirming his letter. They were sent with a large envelope covering certain information concerning other motions of the hon. gentleman which did not in any way concern these two letters. So I sent it back to get a correct envelope.

Mr. MITCHELL. I am anxious to get it soon, because the Grand Trunk stock is dropping so fast, I am afraid it will disappear altogether before I get the return in.

#### QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE.

Mr. McCALLUM. I hold in my hand the *Globe* of the 19th of March, in which the following language is used:—

"Following the lead of Mr. White of Hastings, Mr. McCallum to-night declared himself in favor of a legislative union and the abolition of the Provincial Legislatures. The Conservative members are becoming candid. Possibly they will throw off the mask altogether before next election and appeal to the country as legislative unionists."

There is not a man within hearing of my voice to-day who heard me make use of that language. In plain Saxon, I say the man who wrote that paragraph must have written it wilfully, knowing it to be false, and I brand him a liar, a moral coward, and one not fit to associate with gentlemen.

#### WAYS AND MEANS—THE TARIFF.

On order to resume adjourned debate on motion of Sir Leonard Tilley to go again into Committee of Ways and Means.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. With respect to this motion I should like to know if we can, in any way, come to a conclusion as to when the debate may be expected to close. Perhaps we might come to a vote as the discussion has lasted for a good many days.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Does the hon. gentleman know how many on his own side wish to speak?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I do not.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I think we are all desirous of coming to a conclusion at a reasonable time, though of course one cannot answer altogether for gentlemen behind. I do not think, however, that there will be any unnecessary delay on this side, for I believe hon. gentlemen behind me are anxious to close too.

Mr. BLAKE. I have one practical suggestion to offer. If the debate closes to-night I presume it is not the intention of the hon. gentleman to take the resolution through the committee, because there will be a good deal of discussion on the details of the resolutions, and it would not do to take them very late at night. If we come to an understanding that the debate shall close, and if the hon. gentleman should go into committee and come out again, it would be a breach of the understanding to interpose at that time with any observations. I think it would be unfortunate, as the hon. gentleman furnishes us with a good deal of practical discussion in the committee, that it should be taken at an untimely hour.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. We propose only to go through with one resolution—the one with reference to prison labor. We would like to take a vote on that.

Mr. BLAKE.

Mr. BLAKE. In saying that, the hon. gentleman does not mean that he intends to abandon the others?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. Oh no; we will certainly not abandon them. We simply want to take a vote on that particular one to-night.

Mr. JACKSON. The hon. member for Brockville (Mr. Wood), as you are aware, Mr. Speaker, favored the House last night with a very able speech, and I am sure every one who listened to it must have been charmed with its eloquence. For my own part I may say that I was pleased to listen to him, but I must acknowledge, at the same time, that I was a little astonished at some remarks the hon. gentleman made. He spoke with regard to the exodus of Canadians to the United States. He referred to some remarks made by my colleague the hon. member for North Norfolk (Mr. Charlton) when that gentleman spoke about his own county. He referred to the duty on coal, to the immigration policy of the Government, to the increased population of the Province of Ontario—all of which I shall give some attention to in the course of my remarks. I am very much disinclined to refer to what has been said on this subject by previous speakers; and were it not that any remarks I may make, may be read by people outside of this House who have not had the privilege of listening to this debate I should have refrained from making charges which have been made and so ably proven by other speakers, but as what those hon. gentlemen have said cannot appear in my remarks I shall take occasion to allude to them myself. During the year 1877-78 the leaders of the Conservative party charged the Mackenzie Administration with being responsible for the depression which then existed throughout this country. They saw that, according to the natural results of trade throughout the world, prosperity would return again within the immediate future, they believed if they could persuade the people that the Government was responsible for the existing depression, that at the next election they would be returned to power, and when once in power, and by the return of prosperity to this country which would be sure to come, they could and would maintain themselves in power. Therefore, it was said from one end of the Dominion to the other that the previous Government were incompetent to run the affairs of the nation; they were charged with being flies on the wheel; they were charged with retarding the progress of the country. The people were told during the election campaign of 1878 that if they wanted high prices for their wheat, high prices for their labor, if they wanted general prosperity, they should support the National Policy and Sir John Macdonald. The hon. First Minister himself stated that a readjustment of the tariff would stimulate and build up the manufacturing industries of the country, that it would create a home market for the produce of the farmer, that it would build up a labor market with high prices, that it would bring back the young men who were emigrating to the United States by the thousands and build up and keep Canada for the Canadians. These and similar statements were sounded from one end of the Dominion to the other; the elections were brought on, the Conservative party were successful. They were elected to power and we have now had six years of the hon. gentleman's Administration. Well, Sir, have these promises to the people been fulfilled? The First Minister says they have. I have here a statement made by the right hon. gentleman to a reporter of the *New York Herald*, when the First Minister was departing for Europe in November last. The reporter asked him:

"Are you still satisfied with protection in Canada, Sir John?"

"Yes; it has worked well for us. We have had five years of it, and we are satisfied it has greatly promoted our prosperity. Our young men before we adopted a protective policy were leaving us to come to the United States. We had nothing to offer them but agriculture and the village blacksmith and kindred trades. If the young men had any enterprise, any mechanical talent, any disposition for manufactures, they went to the United States with those faculties and generally pro-