

be adjudged guilty of a misdemeanour and shall be subject to fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the party so accused.

6. No member of any Liberal administration, local or other, shall be entitled to the benefit of this Act.

7. God save the Queen.

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APPENDIX "L."

Extract from *The Speaker*, September 12, 1891, as it appeared in *The Globe*, September 23:

"The undisputed facts are bad enough. The defence constantly set up when large sums are traced from a contractor or office seeker to a legislator is that the money was not for the recipient's private benefit, but for legitimate political purposes. That this is reckoned any defence at all shows the extent to which the political conscience has been blunted in Canada. If the candidate's election expenses were not paid for him he would have to pay them himself; and to receive these expenses from men who expect to be repaid in Government contracts or offices immediately destroys the independence of the legislator. From this point of view the independence of the Federal Parliament was undermined long ago by Sir John Macdonald. He won the general elections of 1878, 1882, 1887 and 1891 with large sums voted by manufacturers out of the extra profits which he guaranteed them by a high import tariff. Whole constituencies have been bribed by the offer of a bridge here, and a dock there, and a new post-office or custom house yonder, to vote for the man who could get the Government to spend most public money in the locality, quite irrespective of the general interests of the country."

*The Speaker* says Mr. Abbott is "the man who in 1872 negotiated the great bribery scheme by which Sir John Macdonald was driven disgraced from office. Now he assumes the rôle of Theseus, prepares to explore the labyrinth by means of a royal commission, and heroically vows to slay the minotaur of corruption which has been feeding on the bone and blood of Canada."