

The Tory Record

The whole stock in trade of the Tory party in this campaign consists of vague and indefinite charges of corruption on the part of the Liberals and they hope by this method to blind the eyes of the electorate to the real issues, and to have returned to power the men who were responsible for many of the political misdeeds of the Tory party in the past. It is a well-known fact that the Tories had for years an organized gang of expert bribers, personators and pluggers, ballot stealers and ballot switchers, by whose operations they were kept in power, and all this howling about corruption and graft is intended to cover up their own nasty work. Do the people of Canada want to return to power the men under whose rule there existed the worst saturnalia of corruption, graft and political fraud that ever disgraced a civilized country? Following the exposures in connection with the general elections of 1891 the British press commented on the methods of the then Tory Government in seathing terms. Following are only a few of the extracts:

The London Times: "Here in the Mother Country there can be only one feeling, that of deep regret for the wrong done to the fair fame of the eldest of her daughters."

London Graphic: "It is no longer possible to doubt that corruption in its worst form is rampant in a large portion of the Canadian civil service."

London Telegraph: "Enough, unfortunately, is already known in England to make it clear that only the most resolute and drastic purification can redeem public life in Canada from the taint of corruption, the like of which we have not seen in our own country for hundreds of years."

London Echo: "No country can prosper where public departments are in league with fraudulent contractors, and where Ministers are open to offers."

St. James' Gazette: "The existence of an organized system of corruption among public officials in Canada has been conclusively proved, and like everything else on the American continent the bribery has been colossal."