

Speaking in the House of Commons on Wednesday, the 2nd September, 1891, Mr. M. C. Cameron, M. P. for West Huron, said :

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for East Grey (Mr. Sproule) will pardon me if I do not follow him in his long speech. The hon. gentleman said in concluding his speech that if he spoke for an hour longer he could advance arguments just as strong as the arguments he had advanced. I agree with the hon. gentleman. I believe if he spoke for twenty-four hours one argument would be just as strong as another argument. The hon. gentleman in order to show that the census returns and the deplorable exhibition they make is attributable to the Liberals and the Liberal speeches and the conduct of Liberal members of Parliament, pointed out a number of counties represented by Liberals in which the population has decreased, and a number of counties represented by Conservatives in which the population has increased, and he attributed the decrease in the populations of these counties to the speeches made by Liberals to their constituencies, in Parliament and in the country, on the trade policy and kindred questions. I am not prepared to say why it is that some constituencies that have returned Conservatives to Parliament have increased in population. It may have been because they do not read the newspapers. It may have been because there is not the general intelligence in constituencies of that kind, that there is in constituencies represented by members of the Opposition, (Hear, hear) but the hon gentleman

Was a Little Unfortunate

in one or two of his references. The riding of East Huron was not represented for years by a Liberal until 1887. For seven years of the past decade that county continued to be repre-

sented by a Tory, and I believe, if it had been represented by a Tory, as that is an intelligent constituency, there would not have been as large a population there as there is now. West Huron was represented by a Conservative prior to 1882 and subsequent to 1887, for at least six years of the present decade, and, if the population has decreased in that county, it is certainly not because the constituency was represented by a Liberal. I would like to know what the Minister of Finance thinks of the hon. gentleman's argument; I would like to know what the Minister of Marine and Fisheries thinks of the hon. gentleman's argument; I would like to know what the Minister of Justice thinks of the hon. gentleman's argument. If the decrease in the population is attributable to disloyal speeches of members representing these counties, how is the hon. gentleman from East Grey (Mr. Sproule) going to satisfy the Minister of Finance? Why, the very moment the hon. gentleman uttered that sentiment, the Minister of Finance escaped from the chamber. He was afraid to remain, and the hon. gentleman frightened him from his seat. I find that the county represented by the Minister of Finance has decreased from a population of 25,617 to a population of 23,000, a falling off of 2,617. (Applause and laughter.) Now, the Minister of Finance must have been uttering some thoroughly disloyal sentiments in

The County of Kings, N. B.,

or the population would not have fallen off. He has been decrying the country, and he has been preaching blue ruin; (Cheers.) How is the member for East Grey (Mr. Sproule) going to reconcile himself with his hon. friend who sits right behind him (Mr. Tupper). He had better go over to the adjoining seat and make up friends with the hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries. He must also