

# POOR DOCUMENT M C 2 0 3 3

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B., OCTOBER 20, 1900.

ST. JOHN, N. B., October 20, 1900.

## AUTHORIZED AGENTS.

The following Agents are authorized to canvass and collect for the Semi-Weekly Telegraph, viz.:

T. W. Rainsford.  
Allison Wishart.  
W. A. Ferris.  
Wm. Somerville.

MR. T. W. RAINSFORD, Travelling Agent for the Daily and Semi-Weekly Telegraph is now in Kent County, N. B.

MR. ALLISON WISHART, Travelling Agent for the Daily and Weekly Telegraph is now going through Nova Scotia.

Subscribers are asked to pay their subscriptions to the agents when they call.

## Semi-Weekly Telegraph

ST. JOHN, N. B., OCTOBER 20, 1900.

## THE CONSERVATIVE CAMPAIGN.

We published Wednesday a pretty full account of the speeches delivered by Messrs. Foster and Stockton at the meeting which they held in the Opera House on Monday evening. Probably our readers will conclude that a good deal of space was wasted on these gentlemen, for really they had nothing to say, except what has been said many times before by different members of their party, at different places, during the past two years. No one, of course, expected much from Dr. A. A. Stockton, who is simply all voice and nothing more, vox et preterea nihil, but as Mr. Foster has some reputation as a speaker, it was thought that he might be able to give some good reasons why the people of St. John should elect him and Dr. Stockton to represent them in the next parliament of Canada. These expectations, however, were doomed to be disappointed. Mr. Foster's speech was a very commonplace production, for it was the same old speech which he has been repeating for the last twelve months, in parliament and out of it, and which is nothing more than a tirade of abuse against the present government. Even if every word in Mr. Foster's speech had been true, instead of being utterly false, it would not have supplied a single reason why the electors of St. John should give him their confidence, or send him to the House of Commons as their representative.

Dr. Stockton gave as a reason for his change with respect to the Liberal party that he left it at the same time as Mr. Blake did, on account of the policy of unfettered reciprocity. That may be a good reason for him withdrawing himself from the Liberal party, but it is no reason for his allying himself with the Tories under the leadership of Sir Charles Tupper. Dr. Stockton in 1882 and 1887, and at other times, has denounced Sir Charles Tupper in the most vigorous language that it was possible to use on a public platform. He has alluded to him as the high priest of corruption, as a man without honesty, as a boodler and as everything that was dishonest in politics. Yet he is now following this same man, although Sir Charles has experienced no change of heart, has not repented of his aims, and is quite as dishonest a man as he was at any period of his political career. Are we to understand by this that Dr. Stockton was not telling the truth when he denounced Sir Charles Tupper in 1882 and 1887, or are we to believe that he is now willing to follow a political somnambulist, like the leader of the opposition, as a high priest of corruption and a man whose heart or conscience? We leave Dr. Stockton the explanation of this singular condition of affairs. Certainly he cannot escape from one horn or the other of the dilemma.

Mr. Foster was very anxious to avoid any personal comparison between himself and Mr. Blair. He wanted the thing to go on what he called "the principles of the Conservative party," although we never been able to learn what the principles of that party were, because they are advancing one kind of politics at one end of the line and another kind at the other end. They are in fact the opportunists of Canadian public life, ready to take advantage of every favorable breeze that blows which would be likely to waft them into power, no matter from what part of the compass it may come. Mr. Foster is wise in not comparing himself with Mr. Blair, for certainly in such a comparison he would show very badly. But the people of St. John, who have some interest in the personality of their representatives, will not take the same view of the matter as is put forward by Mr. Foster. They will think, and think rightly, that Mr. Foster's conduct towards this point in times past is an element to be considered when he comes to ask them for their votes, and they will also think that Mr. Blair's treatment of them and of this city, is also something in his favor and ought not to be forgotten. We shall venture to say that when the electors come to deposit their votes the majority of them will vote for the man who has been favorable to them and reject the man who has done nothing but injure and depress them.

## A POOR SPEECH.

The universal opinion of those who heard Mr. Foster speak on Monday evening was that his address was a weak performance. He labored hard to excite the

enthusiasm of the audience, but without result. He was surrounded by persons on the stage who were ready to applaud anything he said, but the bulk of the audience was cold. How could they be otherwise? Mr. Foster is not the man to excite the enthusiasm of any person. He is not a warm-hearted man. He is not generous in his impulses. He is not unselfish. He is not patriotic in the true sense of the word. This is clearly proved by his course of conduct towards the city. We shall, before election day, place before our readers a full detail of Mr. Foster's neglect of St. John. In the meantime we may say in a general way that he has never been willing to concede anything to us. He has never been willing that St. John should have any share in the winter port trade of Canada. He takes credit to himself for granting a subsidy in 1885, but that subsidy was extorted from him by threats of the resignation of the men who applied for it, and as a general election was not far off, such a result would have been extremely disastrous to the party, so the money was given, but with a grudging hand. It was not included in the estimates of that year and it would never have been obtained by any ordinary process of asking. The one public work which has been done by the government of Canada for St. John in which Mr. Foster was concerned, is the trestle from the government wharf to Reed's Point. This trestle was built after very long promising, but it was only built on the condition that the city of St. John should pay all the damages to private property which arose from building it. These damages we now know amount to a good many thousands of dollars, for all the property owners have brought actions against the city, and have recovered substantial damages. This is the nice, kind, fatherly and considerate way in which Mr. Foster has treated St. John. If the present government had demanded that in the construction of the elevator and wharf on the east side of the harbor, the city should pay the land damages, what a howl would have been raised by the Tories. Yet this is just what Mr. Foster and the government of which he was a member compelled the city of St. John to do.

## THE PARTY OF PURITY.

Mr. Foster, in his speech on Monday evening, was very severe on those who would presume to purchase votes. If we could accept his statements we would have come to the conclusion that the party to which he belongs was a real party of purity, which never expended any money on elections, but which discontinued in every way the purchase of votes or the debauching of the electorate. Unfortunately for Mr. Foster's speech, the people of this city have not such short memories, but that they can remember a good many instances in which the party of purity has been detected in gross violations of the moral law. One does not need to be so very old to remember the Pacific scandal, when the Conservative party sold a railway charter for a specified sum of money, to enable them to carry on the elections. After that Sir John A. Macdonald and his followers deliberately set themselves to work to reconcile the people of Canada to such transactions, and to cause them to look upon such scandalous offences as venial and excusable. For the eighteen years the Conservatives were in power they maintained themselves by the most shameful bribery, because they were able to extort money from contractors, manufacturers and others for the purchase of votes. There is no fact in the political history of Canada better established than the infamous record of the Tory party. This record has been frequently dealt with by Dr. A. Stockton in his speeches to the electors of the city of St. John, and it so impressed Dr. Alward that he wrote a pamphlet under that title, which ought to have a very wide circulation at the present time. Mr. Foster, referring to recent affairs, stated that in Albert, Kings and Queens, at the provincial elections, \$10, \$15 and even \$20 was paid for votes in open daylight. If this was done it was done by the Tories. We can prove that in Elgin, when the poll was opened, or soon afterwards, the Conservatives were paying \$10 for votes. At Hampstead they were paying still larger sums and at Wickham, the son of an ex-member of parliament was offering \$15 for votes, and declaring that if that was not enough he would give \$5 more than anyone else would bid. This is the way that Toryism preserves the purity of elections. It is well known that the managers in St. John who gather about the Sun office sent large sums of money to Kings, Queens and Albert to influence the elections. How much they sent is known only to themselves, but each of these counties got no less than \$5,000 or \$6,000 for the purposes of bribery. With these things publicly known, as they are, to thousands of people, how absurd it is for Mr. George E. Foster to come forward and in a public speech talk about electoral purity. Such utterances as these only show the hypocrisy of the man, and the want of sincerity which has been a characteristic of his political career ever since he entered public life.

## THE INDEPENDENT PARTY.

From what The Telegraph learns, the Sun is very much mistaken if it really supposes, as it professes to believe, that any large number of the 1,400 electors who composed the Independent party in the city of St. John at the dominion election in 1896 will now support Mr. Foster, who, in their opinion, at that time, attempted to inflict a great wrong upon this city. The information which The Telegraph has, and it is of a very reliable character, is that the great body of the Independent party intend at this election to give their hearty support to Mr. Blair and Colonel Tucker. And it could not well be otherwise. The members of the Independent party have not

forgotten that in 1896 the dominion government, led by Sir Charles Tupper, actually entered into a contract for the Atlantic mail steamship service, for a period of ten years, under which St. John was completely shut out of the possibility of becoming the terminus of the line. Against this course the Independent party protested in the strongest manner possible, and at a grand citizens' meeting held in the Mechanics' Institute on the 20th of May, 1896, the following resolution, which was moved by the then Mayor Robertson and seconded by Hon. Wm. Pugsley, was carried unanimously:

"Whereas, it is the declared policy of the government of Canada to establish a line of fast mail and passenger steamships between Great Britain and Canada and to subsidize the same for a period of ten years to the amount of \$750,000 annually, and a call for tenders has been issued naming Halifax as the winter terminal port in Canada, the government declining to accede to the requests of the St. John and Montreal boards of trade contained in the following resolutions:

"The board of trade of the city on the 1st ult., passed a resolution urging upon the dominion government that in calling for tenders for the proposed fast line no Canadian port be especially mentioned, but that it be left open to the steamship companies tendering, to select their own Canadian ports for the proposed service."

"The Montreal board of trade has endorsed the above and has memorialized the government to have the call for tenders to read 'St. John or Halifax,' leaving it to the steamship companies tendering to decide which is the better port for the winter terminus. On the 5th instant the St. John board of trade unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"That, as the citizens of St. John wish to place their view before the dominion and imperial authorities, the dominion government be requested to extend the time for receiving tenders for the fast mail service to August 10th; therefore

"Resolved that it is the universal feeling of the people of St. John that a grave injustice will be done to this city and province if the government persists in ignoring the claims and advantages of this port, and this meeting desires respectfully but most earnestly to ask the government to change the call for tenders for the fast Atlantic service so as to give to tenders the option of making St. John the winter terminal port."

At a meeting of the Independent party held a few nights afterwards in Sutherland's Hall, the following platform was adopted:

"We protest against the government ignoring the just claims of the port of St. John, either to be made one of the winter terminal ports of the fast Atlantic steamers, or to have the proposed contract so amended as to allow to tenders the option of sending the steamers either to St. John or Halifax, and in the name of national good faith and public honor, we demand that the pledges so repeatedly made to the people of this city and province by the leaders of the Liberal-Conservative party, speaking for and in the name of the government, that St. John would be placed on an equal footing with Halifax in connection with the fast Atlantic service, be now fulfilled."

"By failing upon these pledges, this city and province have incurred a heavy expenditure in equipping the port with the facilities necessary for the accommodation of large ocean steamers, and the proposal of the government to break faith with our people is calculated to arouse the deepest feelings of indignation among all classes. United and decisive action is necessary if this blow at our commercial prosperity is to be averted, and it is felt that the most effective way to prevent the consummation of the wrong with which we are threatened is for our people to elect representatives who will go to parliament under obligation to no party, but solemnly bound first and always to secure justice for this city and province from the government and parliament of the dominion."

"Against the sale, lease or transfer in any shape or form of the Intercolonial Railway to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, or any other corporation, we enter our most earnest protest. From the recent systematic attempts in certain newspapers throughout the dominion, closely identified with the Canadian Pacific Railway, to create a public sentiment in favor of the transfer, signs are not wanting that the great corporation is desirous of securing control of the Intercolonial."

"Some years ago Sir John Macdonald, the then great chief of the Liberal-Conservative party, did not hesitate to declare the policy of his government, which was that the Intercolonial Railway should neither be abandoned nor a government railway nor be transferred. The fact that the minister of finance, who is one of the representatives in the government from this province, and whose duty it is to guard its interests, has declined to give any assurance upon this important question in answer to the request of the citizens' committee, seems to be entirely without justification and calculated to excite the deepest apprehension."

to the future of this city and province will be the action of the government of the day in reference to the matters above referred to, we call on all patriotic citizens to come out of the ranks of the party with which they have been allied in the past, and in the coming election speak with a united voice in favor of equal rights and fair play for this city, whose progress and prosperity are of vastly more importance than mere party triumph."

Mr. Foster was at that time minister of finance, and our citizens had a right to look to him to see that justice was done. The emphatic declaration of the Independent party that his course was entirely without justification and calculated to excite the deepest apprehension, shows the strong feeling entertained by the members of the Independent party against that gentleman. This feeling has not yet died out. Our people are not quick to forgive such a great wrong."

Fortunately for this port, the contract for the Atlantic mail service was subject to the ratification of parliament, and the defeat of the Tory government prevented the intended action against our citizens from being completed. But it is surely an impudent thing for the Sun to invite members of the Independent party to give their support and confidence to the man who was one of the chief actors in committing the offence, which sank so deeply into the hearts of our people, and aroused such intense indignation among all classes."

The Independent party feel that in making St. John the terminus of the fast mail steamers, and in declining to coerce the people of Manitoba in the matter of education, this government has acted as fully in accordance with their views, that they can, without any sacrifice of principle, assist the Liberals in sustaining the present government, which stands for equal rights, and has done so much for the progress and prosperity of the country."

## THE YORK NOMINATION.

We are told in the Conservative newspapers of the immense enthusiasm with which the nomination of the Rev. Joseph McLeod, D. D., has been received in the county of York by the people who follow the fortunes of the Tory party. This may be so but we shall be able to judge better of the value of this enthusiasm when election day comes on. Our readers may, perhaps, be familiar enough with military history to know that when a position is to be stormed and the service one of the greatest hazard and danger a body of men are selected for the purpose of leading the advance who are very properly named "The Forlorn Hope." The members of the Forlorn Hope are almost certain to be killed, but then they are likely to win a great deal of glory, even if they do not live to enjoy it. It appears to us that the Rev. Dr. McLeod is the Forlorn Hope of the Conservative party in the county of York. Mr. George E. Foster, who sat for that constituency for the past four years, for reasons of prudence thought it better to seek another constituency. It is well known that Mr. Foster abandoned York because he was aware that he had no chance of being elected, hence the election of his cousin, the Rev. Dr. McLeod, to be sacrificed as the victim of the political exigencies of the Tory party. The late Artemus Ward was so good a patriot during the civil war that he expressed his entire willingness to sacrifice all his wife's relations on the altar of his country. But Mr. Foster will go a step better than that, for he is willing to sacrifice one of his nearest relations on the altar of the Tory party. While we well wish the Rev. Dr. McLeod in all matters connected with his health, happiness and comfort, we certainly cannot give him any encouragement with respect to his prospects of representing the county of York in the house of commons. His nomination by the people of York clearly proves one thing and that is that the Conservatives in this campaign have no money. If they had had a few thousands to expend on the county of York, they would not talk of nominating the Rev. Dr. McLeod. It is not to be supposed, of course, that Dr. McLeod would consent to conduct a campaign in which money would be used for the purpose of bribery. We have a much better opinion of him than to think that he would allow himself to be involved in any such disgraceful proceeding. It may suit the extremely learned professor of Dalhousie College, Dr. Weldon, to countenance bribery at elections, but the Rev. Dr. McLeod is a doctor of Divinity and a man whose position in the highly respectable body of Christians to which he belongs will not permit of any such lapse from virtue."

THE INTERCOLONIAL AND MR. BLAIR.

It is no wonder that Mr. Foster in his speech the other evening in dealing with the Intercolonial Railway began to flounder and made a wretchedly bad impression. The manner in which that railway has been dealt with by the Conservatives is something of which they ought to be heartily ashamed. They have made it a by-word and a reproach throughout the whole of Canada, and nothing has done more to injure the people of the maritime provinces in the estimation of their fellow-citizens in the western part of Canada, than the manner in which the Intercolonial Railway was managed by successive Conservative governments. Mr. Foster, in dealing with the Intercolonial Railway deficits, deliberately falsified the figures of the three first years of Liberal management. He stated that the net deficits for three years were about \$200,000, but he omitted to mention that for the year 1898-1899, the first year that the Drummond

## Our Five-Dollar Overcoats FOR MEN

Is just such an Overcoat as you pay at least \$7.00 for at other stores; and we hand you your money back if it isn't right in every way. It's really a dressy, good-looking medium weight Overcoat, of Blue Beaver, Velvet Collar, strongly made and neatly finished and perfect fitting. We believe that no such value is offered anywhere else.

## Finer Overcoats \$6.00 to \$18.00.

The greatest stock of Overcoats in St. John is here. Sensible, serviceable coats, and the "swell" silk and satin lined coats. All of correct style.

No matter what you choose here you'll pay less than equal goodness costs anywhere else.

## MAIL ORDERS.

Do not let distance deter you from sending us an order. Remember our store is as near to you as your nearest letter box, and at all times we will be pleased to answer an enquiry.

Send for our Fall Style and Sample Book of Mens and Boys' Clothing.

## GREATER OAK HALL, SCOVIL BROS. & CO., King Street, Corner Germain. } St. John, N. B.

County Railway was operated as part of the Intercolonial, there was a surplus of \$82,000, while during the past year which ended on the 30th of June last there was a very much larger surplus, so that all the deficits that arose since the Liberals came into power have been more than wiped out. Against this we have the fact that in 1880, under Tory rule, there was a deficit of \$550,000; in 1891 it rose to nearly \$700,000; in 1892 it was almost \$500,000, thus in three years of Tory rule from 1890-1892 inclusive, the deficits of the Intercolonial amounted to \$1,750,000. These are the cold facts which neither Mr. Foster nor any one else can gainsay.

On the other hand we know that when under the control of the late government, the Intercolonial practically had no future. The original intention of the construction of the road was that it should join the maritime provinces and Quebec and Montreal, and that the products of the west, and the products of the east, should go over it to the sea. No attempt was ever made by the late government to realize this design. It was treated merely as a local road, and was without any through business of its own. Neither St. John nor Halifax derived any benefit from it as a port of shipment. Indeed with respect to this city there never were any facilities here for the shipment of goods except cargoes of lumber."

If the Conservatives had remained in power this state of affairs would have continued without any change or improvement. Fortunately for the interests of the country Mr. Blair assumed office, and at once set himself to work to improve the condition of the Intercolonial Railway. He realized that unless something was done its condition would yearly become worse and worse, and that to make it profitable it must have western connections. That is why he purchased the Drummond County Railway, and acquired rights over that portion of the Grand Trunk between St. Rose and Montreal, and as over the Victoria bridge, and the use of the depot of the Grand Trunk in Montreal. The Conservatives with their usual blindness opposed all these measures for the improvement of the Intercolonial Railway. They attempted to make out that Mr. Blair in trying to place the Intercolonial on a proper business footing was influenced by selfish motives, and not by the good of the country. They made so many charges in connection with the acquisition of the Drummond County Railway that the government felt impelled to appoint a committee to have them investigated, which committee entirely justified Mr. Blair in the purchase of the road, and what was still more significant, the Conservative members of the committee, Mr. Haggart and Mr. Powell altogether disclaimed any intention of imputing corrupt motives to Mr. Blair or to any member of

the government. There never was a more complete vindication of the policy of a cabinet minister than that which Mr. Blair received from the committee which investigated the Drummond County Railway. As a matter of fact there is no feature in the policy of the government that is more worthy of commendation than the dealing of the government with the Intercolonial. The enormous increase of the receipts of the road and the prospect of making it a paying road, are the best proofs that the right method was adopted in dealing with it. Hereafter, the Intercolonial Railway, instead of being a burden on Canada, as it has been, and a cause of reproach to the maritime provinces, will be something to which every Canadian, whether he lives in the east or in the west, will be able to look with pride. It will be regarded as a truly national highway, and it will be utilized for the business which it was originally intended to do, the shipment of the products of the west to the seaboard."

## THE ANTI-BRITISH POLICY.

The only policy which the Conservative leader has enunciated which is attracting the slightest degree of attention at the present time is his opposition to granting preferential trade to the mother country. The Liberal government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier has given Great Britain a preference of 33-1/3 per cent. in our tariff, so that if the duty on an article is 30 per cent. to foreign countries, British goods of that kind would only pay a duty of 20 per cent. When the preferential policy was first introduced into parliament it was received with immense applause, and it was looked upon, and rightly looked upon, as a measure which was certain to increase the regard of the mother country for Canada and unite this great dominion to Great Britain by the strongest kind of ties—ties of self-interest. Even the Conservatives for the time being were awed into silence by the strength of the demonstration that was made in favor of this policy, but more recently they have been plucking up a little courage for the purpose of opposing it. They now claim that this policy has not been a success because it has only increased our imports from the mother country about 30 per cent. They claim that the mother country should receive no favors from our hands, but that business is business whether we are dealing with the United States or Great Britain. In other words their policy is a Hessian one and is conformable to the ancestors and character of their leader, Sir Charles Tupper. The whole people of the British Islands are looking upon this contest in Canada with the greatest degree of interest. Sir Charles Tupper has declared that if he

should be returned to power one of his first measures would be the abolition of the preferential tariff in favor of Great Britain. This, of course, would place the United States on the same footing as the mother country, giving the same advantages to a nation which has always been hostile to us, as those enjoyed by a nation from which we have sprung and from which we have never received anything but kindness and affection. If such an anti-British policy should be successful, what would the people of Great Britain think of us? What would they think of the loyalty of Canada, when they found that the only motto which had any attraction for us was the selfish one: "Business is business?" Would they not regard this entire change of policy on the part of the people of Canada as an ominous sign and one that proved that our pretended affection for Great Britain was not sincere. We fail to see how they could have any other opinion of us but this. But we may console ourselves with the thought that Sir Charles Tupper will not succeed in his anti-British policy, and his attempt to destroy preferential trade will be defeated, and that nothing which will occur at the coming general elections will weaken the tie of kindred and affection which now binds us to our dear old mother land."

## THE CAMPAIGN IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The fact that Lord Roberts will not return to England as soon as was expected is regarded as significant and to show that the war is not so near over as many people thought. Instead of being amenable to reason, and accepting the logic of events, some of the Boer leaders are determined to keep the field to the last moment, and although they cannot expect anything substantial for the cause of the country, they will harass and annoy the British in every way, and make it necessary to keep a large force in South Africa. A great many of the men who are now in the field under the Boer leaders are men who, after the capture of Pretoria, surrendered themselves and took the oath of allegiance. These men, moved by influences which we do not quite understand, have again taken the field, and it is said that overtures have been made on their behalf for the purpose of disbanding, provided they are granted a free pardon for this breach of faith of which they have been guilty. It must be obvious, however, that it is quite impossible for the British government, or for the general in the field to grant any such concession. Those men, having broken faith once, are not to be trusted. There is nothing to show that if they