the act. Mr. Mackenzie felt keenly

the suggested interference with a province in a matter which was wholly within its own jurisdiction,

a course, which, if pursued, would be

night, and he quietly informed his

staunch friend, Jim Trow, the chief

Liberal whip, to call for him should the House divide before midnight. It

was two o'clock when the divi-

sion bell rang, and at that early

hour in a cold, blustery morn-ing of March the old political-

scarred warrior, fragile in frame and feeble in health, but with a dis-tinct gleam of satisfaction on his

countenance, entered the chamber on

the arm of Mr. Trow, and received such a whole-hearted and non-parti-san cheer that those who heard and

witnessed can never forget. On

being congratulated afterwards he merely added that he voted then as he did in the Letellier case, in favor of

I have seen Mackenzie full of fight and victory at his very best in Par-liament; I have seen him putting forth his strongest efforts in the political field for a friend whom he knew well was to go down to defeat on election day; I have seen him

when his whole party was almost

annihilated by the votes of the people, and on the morrow, undis-

turbed, though disappointed, he was nailing his colors to the masthead as if nothing had happened; I heard

him coolly and quietly present to Parliament, instead of the party

caucus, one early hour in the morn-

ing in 1880 his resignation of leader-

ship, which meant, that the dissen-

tients upon the tariff in his own

ranks were still grumbling over the

loss of power; I have seen him de-

ending his own administration and

the policy he has espoused, despite

its non-acceptance by the people, with a determination and firmness

of character and purpose born of con-

viction; I have seen him vainly try

ing to find speech to reply to his old

time antagonists, when, with only a

word or so forthcoming, the House

saw him in Toronto in 1887 too ill

to enter his constituency, where

voters' lists were loaded up against him, and his chances of election al-

most hopeless; and I listened to his

last words in Parliament, during the

session of 1891; but upon no oc-

casion did I see him to better ad-

egislature of the Province of Quebec

Mackenzie was greatly traduced

struction of the Canadian Pacific

seat, interjected with the words,

SOFTLY! SOFTLY!

Water stretches." It was as if an

electric spark had struck the House,

so speedily and spontaneously came

the applause from both sides. Sir

Charles diverted and paid a high

eulogy to the one man in the Liberal

party who had, he said, a policy, al-

wards removed to Paris by Mac-

Opposition that Mackenzie had made

the officer they complained of a sen-

ator, and at once in a clear and dis-

uttered in Parliament by one who

never ceased to play the manly

game, who hated acting and hypoc-

risy, who stood firmly by his prin

ciples despite certain complainants

in his own ranks, as well as those of

his political opponents, and who

nowledge that he had done right

than to accept any position of

go over the same ground again would adopt the same course.

or which he gave his all.

preferred to remain poor, with the

During the discussion a

urely provincial affair.

oming in last night.

hose rubber soles, too.

severe in his criticism.

donald.

would, with one accord, applaud;

provincial rights.

Oh, Yes, Everybody Loves Mother!



Reminiscences of Hon. Alexander Mackenzie One of the Purest of Public Servants

Veteran Pressman Writes Admiringly of the Former and the incident never interfered Premier --- A Great Parliamentarian and an Honest Man---His Fine Character.

structive series of articles in the West- hear and adjudge any disagreement kenzie to ask for a reply. "You minster, under the title, "Thirty Years or difficulty that might arise be- just manufacture the explanation as

speech, proposing amnesty to those would greatly inconvenience him and section of the party that leaned speech, proposing amnesty to those who took part in the Northwest Rebellion he said that the affairs of the country should be consistently carried on with those "principles of honor and national character which bind every administration no mather of which they may be composed." cording to established precedent as And in a private letter to a member of his own party, who expressed dissatisfaction over patronage distribution and certain political acts of the kind," said the Premier, in his usual emphatic way, which to those not acquainted with him an ardent Conservative. Mackenzie the administration, Mr. Mackenzie might savor of abruptness. Asked never corrected his own speeches for replied that he might be lacking "in for this in writing, he handed it at Hansard. He left everything to the rectitude.' These principles were closely adhered to, no matter Mackenzie did business," said the whether it was in the heat of debate In the Commons, on the public plat-form, or engaged in the conduct of of his speeches.

contracts, although he account. the minutest details of all Government engineer, because he republic works. When the contract garded it as the wrong way to do

In his highly interesting and in- was let he was ready and willing to one of the editors called on Macminster, under the title, "Thirty Years or difficulty that might arise bein the Parliamentary Press Gallery,"
wr. William Mackenzie writes:

Mr. Gladstone said that "honor and minister of marine, in the absence of minister of marine, in the absence of the minister of marine, in the absence of the minister of marine, in the absence of the mewspapers on his own Mr. Gladstone said that "honor and character are the essence of the House of Commons." Judged by this stand-was not interested in politics, was asked by the officers to carry out the work in a certain way that the work in a certain way the work in ter of what they may be composed." cording to established precedent, as porters that Canada ever had, said And In a private letter to a member it is the best way to carry out a that Mackenzie was the only man in political wisdom, but never in moral once to the contractor, and that was the end of it. "Such was the way

contractor to the writer many years newspapermen. afterwards. It was difficult to find work in those days, and a delegation waited not in accord with the existing dempublic business in his office in the those days, and a delegation waited public business in his office in the those days, and a delegation waited upon him, asking for employment. in courage, but I never yet had the After explaining the correct relations courage to misrepresent any man," that existed between the Governwas one of the thrusts he drove ment and the people in this regard, home to a certain member who was he gave his private check for fifty giving a garbled quotation from one dollars to meet their immediate Mr. Mackenzie never It is a matter of history that Mac- forgot that he came from the ranks construed as affecting his personal kenzie refused to see contractors of labor, although it was not his who were tendering or applicants habit to appeal for support on that He was as scrupulous minister of public works. He about giving full and accurate reregarded this to be a pure matter of turns for his labor in building stoneadministration coming entirely walls as he was in after years on within the scope of the officers and guard over the treasury. As a engineers of the department. And stonemason he was engaged on the he pursued this policy, notwithstand- construction of a section of the St. ing that he worked laboriously over Lawrence canals. He refused to plans, specifications and reports, carry out a piece of work in accordwas consequently conversant ance with the instructions of the

it, and got his dismissal. Yet he had a high opinion of the engineer with their good relations when he became prime minister and head of the department. To newspapermen he was always

courteous, if not very informative. A certain political rumor was published in an Opposition paper and

cording to established precedent, as porters that Canada ever had, said reporters, and always declared that the work was well done. In fact, he had generally a good word for the

Three times he refused knighthood, believing that such titles were in Canada. Lord Lorne ocracy made an earnest appeal to him to reconsider his decision, but it was fruitless. He had no narrow views upon the subject, as was shown by his recommending others for honors. About small things, which might be he was needlessly sensitive Some of his colleagues, and others, attended a small party he and Mrs. Mackenzie gave in honor of the 25th anniversary of their marriage. Some of the guests brought small gifts and he was extremely annoyed. Indeed his feelings reached such a point that he returned them the next day, stating that they made him miserable as

ong as they were in the house. The fine character of the man and the stern adherence to principle, even at th expense of his own health. were well exemplified during the session of 1889. He was forbidden by his medical adviser to attend evening sittings of the House, but a question was then under discussion. upon which he was exceedingly de-The act of the Quebec Legislature for the settlement of the Jesuit estates provoked animated discussion in and outside Parliament and caused a great deal of religious and race discord, partic-ularly in Ontario. There was an amendment to supply advising Dominion Government to disallow

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THE JUSTICE'S JOKE.

While Chief Justice Sir William Meredith was lately hearing a case he was disturbed by a young man who destructive to the autonomous rights kept moving about in the rear of the

of the provinces. Consequently he wanted to show his resentment by "Young man," called out the Chief vote since the was physically de-Justice, "you are making a great deal prived of speech. The division was of unnecessary noise. What are you expected to be reached before mid- about?"



SIR WILLIAM MEREDITH.

"Your Honor," replied the young man, "I have lost my, overcoat and am trying to find it." 'Well," said the venerable Justice, people often lose whole suits in here without making all that disturbance."

tariff. "I could never consent," said "to the zollverein policy, obvious reasons; but I cannot coneive why anyone should object reciprocal free trade secured treaty, and not inimical to the interests of Great Britain as the heart of the empire. The utter failure of the National Policy and the enorare reasons why the present adminvotes were lost in the general election in 1878 because they thought I was wrong in my free trade policy. no doubt they acted conscientious-ly. Surely it is not asking too vantage than when he cast his vote, on the morning of the 29th of March, again, and carry with them a large again, and carry with them a large 1889, against interference with the number of hitherto Conservative votes. n respect to what he regarded as a

In Parliament he generally replied to Sir Charles Tupper, and loved to because of his proposition to use the ply to Tupper he frequently assumed cross swords with Sir John. In re-"water stretches" of the Great a scolding tone, such as "the horor-Lakes in connection with the conable gentleman ought to be ashamed.' or the honorable gentleman was guilty Railway, When Sir Charles Tupper of "gross misrepresentation." Answerwas making his announcement in ing Sir John he struck a sort of Parliament that the company was bantering attitude to begin with, going to put up a line of steamers on and ended with all the hard hitting lakes between Collingwood and at his command. These differences Port Arthur, Mackenzie, from his were entirely political, for they were good personal friends.

One day Sir John asked if it were correct that a certain member of parliament was to be appointed postmas ter at Port Hope. "I never heard of it, eplied Mackenzie. "That's a Jesuitica answer," retorted Sir John, "Order," snapped Mackenzie. "I did not say it swer," replied Sir John, "What did he nean," said Mackenzie. "I asked a juestion and the hon, member said ne never heard of it." "How is that Jesuitical?" inquired Mackenzie. "The on, gentleman might have asked the Minister of Justice to give an answer. uggested Sir John. "I suppose would have been able to answer it out I will merely say that there is no truth in the statement, no such apointment ever being intended, sked, or suggested," was the final and conclusive reply, which one would have imagined could have been given in the first instance. But such was his way. Two complaints, and two only, was

he known to make. The one was against himself, the other against those whom though Sir Charles did not agree he had either been a friend to with it, for the construction of the treated generously. He blamed himself C. P. R., and who adhered to it, and for not having the general elections in the utilization of the "water June instead of September, 1878, althe utilization of the "water June instead of September, 1878, alstretches," now approved by the Government and the C. P. R., was pressed by a large number of his followers to take the course he did. Those did anything by halves. He was as who regard Mackenzie as being unmagnanimous as he was sometimes bending and determined to have his own way ought to be able first In 1891 the Government repre- make a distinction between what he centative at Paris was under fire in considered "principle or honor and the Commons on a charge of draw- national character" and the prong a big salary and doing nothing cedure to be followed in any particfor it. This agent was appointed to the Senate by Mackenzie and after-time Provinces against any increase time Provinces against any increase in the tariff to meet the financial tonic medicine I know of stringency, and again to please some Government supporter reminded the of the Quebec leaders he postponed the date of the general elections the strength she needs, and they will from June to tinct voice came the reply, "I repent a mistake in not determining upon these Pills at your dealers, they will these were the last words ever June, and in after years he regarded be sent by mail at 50 cents a box or it." These were the last words ever June, and in after years he regarded be sent by mail at 50 cents a box or it." June had been selected the result Brockville, Ont.

MAKES THE WHITEST, LIGHTE

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vould have been otherwise. The other complaint was against port of the party, and gained recogcertain members of the civil service. nition as the greatest parliamentar-Sir Richard Cartwright in his Reminiscences deals with this matter. He says, "We very soon found that we lived in a glass hive. Hardly a question could be discussed in council, and certainly no resolution arrived at, which was not known at the greatest parliamentarian in Canada, His devotion to Mackenzie, from the first day he served under him until he breathed his last, was particularly marked and never wavered. As a testimony of his loyalty and devotion Sir Richard dedicated his "Reminiscences" to our appropriate New it was once to our opponents. Nay, it was to "the memory of Alexander Macken-quite a common case for us to find zie." In that widely-read book he that measures, which had not even been submitted to council were known to our enemies long before (Mackenzle) in respect to the difficulhey were considered by the major- ties with which he had to struggle." ty of the cabinet. The fact was The fact was the civil service, but practically all the subordinate places were fille

with more or less zealous partisans of our opponents." Cartwright and ome of the other ministers wanted o replace some of those by men that could trust, but Mackenzie rould not consent to what he to garded as an introduction of the poils system. It was not until his lefeat, when he witnessed the demonstrations which greeted the return of the victorious party that he fully realized his surroundings, But mous increase in the national debt while he felt keenly over those matters, and he frequently made menistration should not be supported tion of them, those who knew the any longer. Thousands of Reform man best would not believe that he would have acted otherwise should the opportunity have been given him to do so. Speaking in the House of Commons when Prime Minister, he aid: "No person has ever been dismissed by the present Government except for causes that rendered their ontinuance in office detrimental to the public interest. I would sooner resign office tomorrow than dis-

miss a man from the public service ecause of his political opinions." Sir Richard was the chief target or attack by the Opposition in the Mackenzie Government, and Liberals had no particular enthusiasm for a of aristocratic Tory leanings, was supposed to have joined who their party because of a disagreement with his old chief on a question of political preferment. It was not until Cartwright was in opposi-

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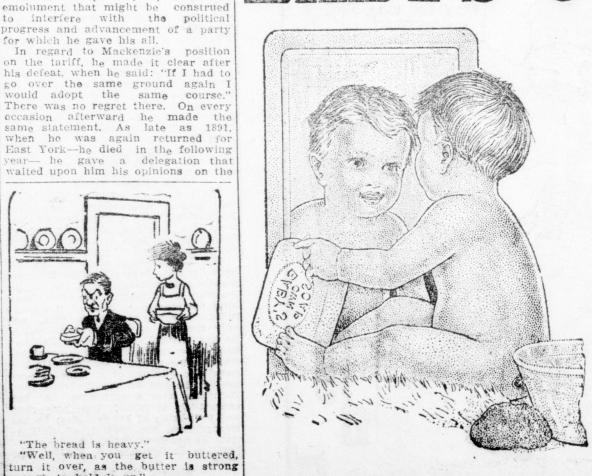
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