

total revenue collected. Kingston was 80 per cent; Hamilton was 67 per cent, London, 61 per cent; Ottawa, 101 per cent, that is one per cent more than they actually collect; Windsor, 70 per cent; Quebec, 96 per cent; Sherbrooke, 38 per cent; Fredericton, 56 per cent; St. John, N.B., 75 per cent; Halifax, 56 per cent; Charlottetown, 114 per cent, being just 14 per cent more than the actual collections. I think I can give a reason for that after I have referred to the others. Winnipeg, 44 per cent; Vancouver, 39 per cent; Victoria, 54 per cent. The House will see that I have taken the city offices in the Dominion, and that there are only three which cost less than Belleville. Windsor is 70 per cent against the 54 in Belleville. You must bear in mind that Windsor is represented by Mr. McGregor, and he is a very ardent and zealous supporter of the government, ergo his city should not be interfered with. Kingston 80, and Kingston is represented by Mr. Britton, another ardent and devoted supporter of the Grit party. St. John is 75 per cent as against 54 in Belleville. That city is represented by Mr. Ellis and Mr. Tucker, two supporters of the government. Quebec shows 96 per cent expenditure on the revenues received against 54 in Belleville, and that city is represented by the Right Honourable Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and Mr. Dobell, and Mr. Malouin, all of them may be considered as very ardent supporters of the government. Charlottetown is 114 per cent represented by Sir Louis Davies. You must bear in mind, and I desire to be fair in giving these explanations, the inspector of the island and the postmaster at Charlottetown are one and the same person, so that if Mr. Brecken who is the postmaster of Charlottetown, were merely the postmaster according to the Civil Service Act he could only get \$1,400 a year, or at the option or will of the postmaster it could be increased \$1,800. So that even if you take the \$2,000 or \$2,200, which he receives and deduct that, and appoint an inspector and appoint a postmaster at the Civil Service salaries, then the expenditure would be greater than the income. We have in this table 75 per cent, 80 per cent, 90 per cent, and 114 per cent of expenditure in some of these places as against 54 per cent expended in Belleville. In view of these facts you may very naturally ask why is Belleville selected if not for political reasons? If the

policy (to which I do not think many of us would object) is to be carried out of reducing the expenditures in the different offices, why has it not been extended to the city offices to which I have called attention? No one can come to any other conclusion than that at which I have arrived, that the Reform party in the city of Belleville, and its vicinity, determined to get rid of the man who was postmaster and whom they did not like, although not a single word can be uttered against him, so far as the performance of his duties is concerned, during the time he was in office. He is a most estimable man who has never given offence to anybody. His political crime was what I have called attention to nothing more. That this policy applied to the city of Belleville met the disapproval of the respectable portion—I am speaking politically now, I do not desire to be understood in any other sense—of the city of Belleville is evidenced by the fact that letter after letter was sent, and deputation after deputation interviewed the Postmaster General protesting against the policy which he was pursuing and the treatment which had been meted out to these different officers. If there was no political bias, if there was no political reasons for carrying out this principle, “to the victors belong the spoils,” then the two clerks to whom I have called attention would have been re-employed. This young lady, Miss Newberry, and Mr. Walker said to the deputy postmaster, “we are quite willing to go back to the office and accept the salaries which you offer of four hundred dollars per year,” which, with the superannuation they were drawing, would not be as much as they had been receiving previous to being placed on the superannuation list. If it were for any other reason than meeting the political requirements of the party they would have been taken back. They were certainly the most efficient members of the whole staff. Mr. Thos. Ritchie, the largest importer in Belleville, who was president of the Board of Trade and a candidate in the Liberal interest in the last election against Mr. Henry Corby, was so disgusted with the whole conduct and policy of the government in this matter that he published the following letter in the newspapers:—

To the Editor of the *Intelligencer*.

SIR,—As I am informed that my name has been connected in public talk about town with the late changes in the post office, it becomes a duty for me to