

of the results of the last federal elections in the province of Ontario; but my right hon. friend glided with a light step over the far more extraordinary phenomenon presented in the province of Ontario by which a government is returned to power in that province, which as a matter of fact has a minority of over 7,000 of the popular vote. That would appear to be a far greater injustice than anything that has ever happened in the federal arena. Nor did my right hon. friend see fit to refer in any way whatever to the far more deplorable spectacle of recent date, whereby the government of Ontario, in order to maintain its life and existence, has had recourse to methods which are not always discovered, but which we have seen practiced by the Liberal party, not only in the province of Ontario but in the province of Quebec and elsewhere. We have seen them, Sir, in the province of Ontario and elsewhere, maintaining themselves in power by a system of corruption which prevents, odiously prevents the free will of the people from being given expression to in this young country.

Mr. JOHN CHARLTON (North Norfolk). I do not rise, Sir, for the purpose of engaging in a discussion of the tariff in connection with this debate on the address, believing as I do that such a discussion at this moment is premature. I have consequently no criticism to make upon the points made by my hon. friend from Jacques Cartier. In many respects, of course, I sympathize with the views that gentleman entertains, but circumstances may arise and are likely to arise in the near future which will convince us that discussion of the tariff, or action upon the tariff is not advisable at the present time. We may find that we have not a proper knowledge of the premises that will exist, and that consequently we are not in a position to take the action which we will be required to take when we know exactly what the conditions are. Should we have a meeting of the Joint High Commission, it is evident to any member who will examine the facts that the result of a meeting of that commission will determine to a great extent the character of the fiscal legislation of this parliament. In case a favourable treaty was obtained with the United States, so far as I am concerned, my views would be quite different with regard to this matter, from what my views would be should the United States persist in continuing the policy that has been in force in that country for the last 35 years. In the latter case I would co-operate earnestly and heartily with my hon. friend from Jacques Cartier, and with those who believe as he does in regard to this matter. On the contrary, if the policy of the United States were to be reversed; if their policy towards this country were to assume a liberal character; if we were to enter upon fiscal relations with that country satisfac-

tory to ourselves; then, of course, the policy that I would favour would be quite different from the policy I would favour in the other case. I think it is not profitable or necessary to enter upon or to continue the tariff discussion upon the debate on this address. I do not think that the House is in possession of the information which would put it in a position to deal with this matter, to take action upon the fiscal policy of Canada as it ought to do; and consequently I pass over the discussion of the tariff question for the reason, that so far as I myself am concerned, I am not able to say where we shall land, what the conditions will be, what will confront us, what course it will be proper for us to take. Our course will necessarily be governed by the conditions that will hereafter arise, and in my opinion we had better wait until these conditions develop themselves. So much for the tariff.

Now, I do not know, Mr. Speaker, that I should have risen at all on this occasion but for the desire I have to make a few remarks upon a certain phase of sentiment in this country, and upon a certain disposition manifested in certain quarters in this country which I think is regrettable, in reference to our international relations. It is quite common in Canada to criticise with some severity, often with a good deal of severity, the action of Great Britain with regard to this Dominion. Now, we should remember, Sir, that so far as Great Britain is concerned, so far as we ourselves are concerned, it is a matter of primary importance to maintain good relations with that great branch of the Anglo Saxon family to the south of us. That is especially the case with Great Britain. Great Britain has world wide interests; interests that do not centre primarily and chiefly in Canada; but interests that spread over the whole broad face of the world. Great Britain has interests in Canada, and I believe that Great Britain, so far as her policy towards Canada is concerned, has discharged her duty to this country faithfully and in such a way as to merit our thanks and approval. But we may, we naturally do magnify the importance of our own issues and of our own interests. We may, and we do sometimes think that England should sacrifice everything for the maintenance of some comparatively unimportant claim or interest that we think a great deal of. In the past, England has stood by our interests faithfully, in my opinion. In the past I do not think we have just reasons for complaint against the policy that Great Britain has pursued with regard to these colonies or this Dominion. For this reason, I think that England is often unjustly accused of failing to stand by our interests with that persistence and with that disregard of consequences that some expect she ought to do. It is a matter of primary importance to Great Britain, I repeat, to maintain good re-

Mr. MONK.