SIR JOHN MACDONALD.

Several biographies of Sir John Macdonald have been issued; two or three while he was yet living, and three since his death. All these works are instructive and useful contributions to the history of the country. But there has remained to be produced a work in which materials not generally available should be used. The public sources of information have been pretty well gone over by Sir John's biographers. But the great wealth of interesting material contained in private correspondence and memoranda had not been explore! until his secretary, Mr. Joseph Pope, was placed in a position to write the memoirs of Sir John Macdonald from these inside sources of information. Those who knew the position in which Mr. Pope stood toward his chief and understood that he had in his work the hearty co-operation not only of Sir John's family but of his surviving colleagues and of his intimate friends. have had high expectations from him The memoirs, now issued, will cause the reader to see many historic events in a fresh light. Mr. Pope's book reveals Sir John A. Macdonald in his working clothes. The biographer does not give much attention to purely personal or social gossip. He passes somewhat lightly over domestic history. His purpose seems to be to allow Sir John Macdonald to tell his own story of the chief political events of his life. Mr. Pope performs the modest part of furnishing the connecting links and explanations, leaving the letters and memoranda of Sir John and his colleagues to speak as far as possible for themselves. The unpretentious manner in which this is done conceals from the careless reader the magnitude of the task which the author or editor has performed with rare skill and evidently with many months of weary toil and much research. The introduction by the widow of Sir John Macdonald explains how the book came to be prepared and how it fell to Mr. Pope to perform the duty of a biographer.

During one of those strange and bewildered days following that supreme and solemn hour which closed the earthly life of my husdiand—days when I tried to move forward from the horror of a great darkness into the sad twilight of resignation—on one of those days the necessity forced itself upon me for naming a writer, who, having had a close personal intercourse with Sir John, should, aided by the contents of such papers and letters as he had left, be able to give a more intimate and detailed history of his interesting personality than would be possible for any other biographer, however competent and faithful, not possessed of these special advantages. ssed of these special ad

Happily my husband anticipated the posof this necessity and, as was his cus-the regulation of my daily life, had given me in a few slight words the direction T should need. The subject had been brought under his notice some three or four months before the time of our parting by two letters addressed to me. addressed to me. Both these letters were from literary persons unknown to us, each offering his services as Sir John's biographer, one of whom was good enough to ask my assistance in the preparation of his work.

When the second of these letters arrived, though Sir John was apparently as well as usual, deeply engrossed by important business and in the full tide of public affairs. I had dready with a sinking heart heen visited had already with a sinking heart been visited by strange and unusual misgivings as to the state of his health. It was more from his words and ways of late I had learned to fear, for it seemed to me that the

for it seemed to me that in some mysterious manner the veil of the great hereafter was of his rare intervals of leisuresadly do I remember how difficult it was to find even a few unoccupied minutes for the purpose—I showed both these letters to Sir John, as I had shown others on the same received at intervals during the last ten years of our married life.

I see my husband now as he spoke in answer, wearied and thoughtful on his return home at Ottawa from a long cabinet meeting: "They must wait till I am dead," he said slowly, and then I think Joe shall write it." He thus spoke of Mr. Joseph Pope, his long-time private secretary and friend, who for more than ten years had been a frequent inmate of our house, for whom Sir John had a warm regard, in whose honesty of purpose and ability he had always great confidence, whom he spoke, I feel sure, as confidentially as so naturally reticent a man was able to speak to any other. "Yes," he repeated, "Joe shall write it; he knows more about me than any one else; and you, Agnes, shall help him." In accordance with the first part of this desire, so soon as it was possible for me to see him, I sent for Mr. Pope and asked him as a personal favor

undertake the work. The second, alas, it was impossible to ful-fil. Suffering, weakened and unfit, it was then, and it has been ever since, not only impossible for me to add a line or word to them, but even to read over Mr. Pope's pages, for which I now in this blind, unusual manner venture to ask public attention.

Having consented, not without many misgivings, to the preparation of these memoirs, Mr. Pope naturally asked for such matit in full.

erial as I could furnish.

A large collection of letters and papers had een carefully preserved during many years by Sir John with a view, as he more than longer devotion to the public service, should retire altogether from political should retire altogether from political life and enjoy, what he always eagerly looked forward to, a few years of rest and quiet before the end should come. To these letters and papers, except in this way to me, cover that my husband made any further reference whatever. They remained at my disposal, and, entirely unfit as I was at my disposal, and, entirely unit as I was to read over and examine or select from their pages I had no choice but to give them unreservedly to Mr. Pope, with a request that in making use of their contents he

would exercise his best judgment.

That Mr.Pope has done this in all things renating to these memoirs, that he has used his great ability and spared no pains to write honestly, faithfully and usefully, I know full and if in his writing and my introduc-there is more that is faulty and illaudged than is usually the case in memoirs and their prefaces. I hope and believe we shall be forgiven these results of our inexperience, and at least get the credit of hav-

For himself Mr. Pope explains that Sir John was one of the most reserved of men, that he was sixty-seven years old when Mr. Pope first spoke to him and that the great wealth of material at the disposal of the author made the work of selection difficult. He was further embarrassed by the fact that many of the contemporaries of Sir John are still living. Mr. Pope says that he has avoided as far as possible giving offence, but that his first duty was toward the memory of his late chief. Some of the correspondence printed will beget contro-There are sharp expressions which will not be pleasing to the of the persons concerned.

to Dufferin on the Pacific Railway matter he was only carrying out the instructions of Sir John himself.

We take up the story about the beginning of the confederation movement, not because the early chapters are without interest, but because the later ones deal with subjects of larger import. The correspondence between Sir John and Mr. Brown which resulted in the confederation coalition has been published many times. The two leaders had been rather more than political opponents. Before the coalition they had not, according to Mr. Pope, exchanged a word in social intercourse for ten years. They found it necessary to act together to get clear of the dead lock and anarchy. Thereupon Sir John said :

We acted together, dined at public places together, played euchre crossing the At-lantic, and went into society in England day after together. And yet on the e resigned we resumed our old

This was not Sir John's usual manner with opponents, but Mr. Brown was a man whose opponents were not apt to remain personal friends. Professor Goldwin Smith retains his feeling of bitterness which time and the grave does not soften. But in 1864 the two chiefs were working together eagerly and harmoniously enough. Mr. Brown went to Ottawa and had a look at the parliament buildings then in process of construction. His observations on that subject do not show great foresight. He writes to

The buildings are magnificent: the style. the extent, the site, the workmanship are all surpassingly fine. But they are just 500 years in advance of the time. It will cost half the revenue of the province to light hem and heat them and keep them clean. Such monstrous folly was never perpetrated in this world before. But we are in for it; I do think the idea of stopping short of combletion is out of the question; I go in for lower, rotunda, fountains, and every conceiveable embellishment. If we are to be laughed at for our folly at least let us not iled for a half finished pile. I go in for making it a superb folly that will bring visitors from all countries to see a work that they can't see elsewhere. To say the truth, here is nothing in London, Paris or Washington approaching it.

It would have been hard to convince Mr. Brown then that before a dozen years the Mackenzie governmen with his support, would be engaged in adding a wing to the buildings, and that another twelve years would make necessary still another large block. Sir John Macdonald with better insight desired at the beginning to acquire the whole of Nepean Point and also the ground where the Langevin block now stands. His colleagues thought they would need no more land for a century. This was an expensive miscalculation.

In connection with the Charlottetown reference Mr. Pope takes a hand in the controversy respecting the presence there of the late Sir Alexander Campbell. He says:

The presence of Sir Alexander Campbell at en questioned, and no less an authority an the Hon. Mr. McDougall quoted in supthan the Hon. Mr. McDougall quoted in support of the assertion that Mr. Campbell did not accompany his colleagues to Charlottetown. A visit to Earnscliffe will show that Mr. McDougall's memory has sailed as old office there hangs a photograph of the members of the conference as they stood on the steps of the government house at Char-lottetown. Among them can be seen the well known face of the late lieutenant governor of Ontario.

We are informed that at Charlottetown Sir John for the first time met Messrs. Tilley and Tupper, with both of whom he was much impressed. The results of the two union conferences in Canada and most of the details are matters of history. much light is thrown on them in the narrative.

The first set back to the union movement was defeat at the polls in New Brunswick. Sir John wrote to Colonel Gray of St. John on that occasion, expressing regret. He remarked that it would probably have been better to have discussed the subject in the legislature before going to the polls, but admitted that it was easy to be wise after the event. Sir John could not understand why the Roman Catholic bishop opposed confederation, as the western bishops were all in favor of it. But the next year the anti-comfederate government in this province quarrelled with the lieutenant governor, who seems to have considered himself free to take an active interest in the union matter. Mr. Tilley and his friends came in and were supported at the polls. A letter from the New Brunswick premier to Sir John toll's the story as he viewed it. This letter has never been printed, and we give

Fredericton, April 14, 1866. My Dear Macdonald: I all along believed that Smith and his colleagues were not sincere in their professions to the governor before the house met as reagards the union, and late events have confirmed my suspicions most fully. You express a fear that Fisher did not meet the question in a proper spirit. Now the only dust of Fisher, as far as I could see, was his pledge, given on the hustings, that he would oppose confederation in the present house. This statement embarrassed him to some extent, but it was arranged that, in the event of the defeat of the government, or if by any means he was to go to his constituents again for re-election, he would feel relieved from that position. Smith in the early part of the session talked favorably, but as the session were on he gradually ed, and we were all convinced that he not support ipport a measure of union after the ents he had made. The governor, watsupport ching the proceedings, came to the same conclusion and put the pressure upon them to declare their policy. When the legislative council passed their address asking his exellency to cause an act of union to pass in the imperial parliament and presented the same in a body to his excellency the gover-nor expressed his satisfaction and said it would no doubt further the cause of the union. In giving this answer it is quite clear that it was in perfect accord with the policy of the government as agreed upon between his excellency and his advisers, but it un-fortunately happened that a note sent to Smith at noon of the day on which the address was received by his excellency, and which note contained a request to come to government house to advise in relation to the answer did not reach Smith until 2.30 m., and the legislative council was to meet s excellency at 3. Smith drove up immedately and when he read the governor's rerately and when he read the governor's rerly he objected to it. The governor said it
was in accordance with arrangements made
with him. Smith asked time to consider.
The governor proposed that he should go
down and consult his colleagues at once or
send for them to come up. Smith replied
that the no-confidence debate was going on
and they could not leave. While the discussion was going on the council arrived. They sion was going on the council arrived. friends of the persons concerned.
Some of the references to the British representatives on the Washington treaty commission are rather on Tuesday last the government tendered

severe and there are references to Mr. McDougall and one even to the late Sir George Cartier, which will perhaps be resented. But Mr. Pope says that in publishing the fishery commission letters and the letter converged was that he did not give the country making the most of it. Where the governor mor erred was that he did not give the country and the most of it. Where the governor error was that he did not give the country and the most of it. Where the governor general making the most of it. Where the governor general making the most of it. Where the governor general making the most of it. Where the governor general making the most of it. Where the governor general making the most of it. Where the governor general making the most of it. Where the governor general making the most of it. Where the governor with a view of getting a cry in the country and take the office of commissioner of patrons and engage in literary work.

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us but a general election, and we shall have
to fight the opposition upon less favorable
ground than we would if the simple question
of confederation was at issue. The new government will probably be formed today and
I suppose I must go into it and fight it out
upon the confederation line. The governor
has replied to the reasons given by the government for resigning, and yesterday Smith ernment for resigning, and yesterday Smith took up the resignation and answer in the

took up the resignation and answer in the matory speech attacking the governor, as-serting that his statements were untrue, and acted in the most disc reading the reply that he intended se to the governor and commenting upon it be-fore it had been even sent to his excellency. The house was adjourned last evening until Monday at 3 o'clock to give Wilmot and Mit-chell time to arrange the new administra-The governor sent for me to act with Wil

mot, but I declined, not having a seat leither branch of the legislature. Smith friends gave notice yesterday of a serie of resolutions condemning the governor. of resolutions contenting the governor, be followed by an address to her majesty to remove him. As they have a majority in this house they might carry this proposition, and it can only be met, you see, by a dissolution. Matters have taken an unfortunate turn, but the elections must be carried at difficulty.

Since writing the foregoing Wilmot, Tilley, Fisher, Mitchell and Williston have been sworn in members of the executive council. The resignation of the late government having been accepted it was necessary to hav a council to advise in relation to matters connected with the threatened attacks upon our borders. We have a hard fight before our borders. We have a nasus, but we must put it through.
Yours very sincerely,
S. L. TILLEY.

Sir John with some of his colleagues went to London on public matters. While there they attended the Derby Day races.

Coming home we had lots of fun; even George Brown, a covenanting old chap, caught its spirit. I bought him a pea shooter and a bag of peas and the old fel-

The party made up a pool at a guinea each on the race, and Sir John drew the field. Afterwards he traded with Mr. Galt, who had drawn Gladiateur, and won twenty pounds. Sir John returned to Canada with a doctor's degree from Oxford, to learn a few days after that Premier Tache was dead and the coalition was under Sir John or Mr. Cartier, and corded, though only on the casting objected there to a sale of the fisheries Narcisse Belleau. It is now revealed for the first time that Mr. (afterwards Sir) Aexander Campbell aspired to and in fact unsuccessfully claimed the premiership. Mr .Brown was becoming restless and jealous. As an example of his mood it is stated that Sir John one time proposed a motion containing a list of names, in which Mr. Galt appeared before Mr. Brown. Thereupon Mr. Brown wrote:

I see that you have again * * Mr. Galt precedence over me. * *
I think it extremely offensive. Of
course I can only call attention to it. I am infortunately in a position which compels o submit to these small affronts not swallow them without fetting you know that I see them. Finally Mr. Brown withdrew from the ministry.

Lord Monck was adding to Sir John's troubles by reproaching him with the slow progress of the cause. However, the London conference took place and the constitution was nrepared. Sir John did all he could to have the new nation called "the kingdom of Canada," but Lord Derby had the title changed lest it "would wound the sensibilities of the Yankees." An interesting letter from Sir John to his sister describes the presentation of himself, Cartier, Galt, Tilley and Tupper to the Queen. A letter to Mr. Tilley in May, 1867, is not without interest, in view of the claim of Mr. Mitchell that he was himself the confederate leader at that time in this province.

I leave you to select an associate from New Brunswick. Is it to be Mitchell, Fisher, Wilmot, or who? Make up your mind and bring him with you. * * I must answer two letters from Fisher and Mitchell, will avoid particulars.

When Mr. Brown retired from the cabinet, Sir John, desiring to preserve the coalition, asked Mr. Howland, his reform colleague, to choose a comrade to take the vacant place. Mr. Howland proposed to Mr. Mackenzie, who after seeing Mr. Brown declined. few years later Mr. Mackenzie was leader of the opposition.

Sir John Macdonald was of the opinion that his greatest political triumphs were before confederation. But as Mr. Pope points out, there was not, after the union had brought into competition with him such statesmen as Sir Leonard Tilley and Sir Charles Tupper, any more question of his right to the leadership than there was before. The election of 1867 gave the government four-fifths of the constituencies. Only Nova Scotia condemned the government and the union. In a private note at this time Sir John Macdonald wrote:

You will see that we carried everything be-fore us in Canada and New Brunswick. * * Nova Scotia, on the other hand, has declared as far as she can against confederation, but she will be powerless for harm, although that pestilent fellow, Howe, may endeaver to give us trouble in England.

Sir John lad occasion afterward to speak in more complimentary terms of Mr. Howe. One of the first misfortunes that befell the premier after confederation was the tragic death of his friend Mr. McGee. It seems that some foreboding of this calamity had come to Sir John, for the last letter of McGee to his leader contained this postscript, "many thanks for your hint about my personal safety. shall not forget it." Writing to Sir Charles Tupper after the assassination, Sir John says of Mr. McGee's last speech made the night he was shot : He spoke eloquently of your merits and gave Parker a most deserved castigation. Within an hour he was a corpse.

To Archbishop Connolly, of Halifax,

Sir John wrote replying to a letter

eral of the dominion. Sir John interchanged some rather sharp letters has hitherto gone there." But the rebefore the union. But their personal relations were kindly and Sir John always regarded him as one of the chief promoters of confederation. Lork Monck resigned in 1868, after the allowance for the office had been cut down to two-thirds of the first amount. It is perhaps not generally known that the Earl of Mayo was appointed his successor, and that he refused to come when he learned that the office had been reduced in prestige and dignity by the cut in the salary. Just then Sir John Young had returned from an Australian governorship, and was appointed to Canada, while Lord Mayo went to India and was assassinated. The most serious difficulty confront-

ing the first administration at the be-

ginning was the repeal agitation in Nova Scotia, and the repeal agitation was mainly under the control of Mr. Howe, whom Mr. Pope describes correctly as a loveable man, devoted to his province, and the greatest natural orator that British America has ever produced. Mr. Howe and three omrades were in England in the winter of 1868 to press for repeal Messrs. Galt and Tupper were selected to present the case for the dominion. Mr. Galt differed with his leader as to the course to be pursued and did not go. Writing to Mr. Tupper, Sir John advised him to adopt the most conciliatory terms with Mr. Howe. In reply Sir John is informed that Mr. Howe had been asked to give the union a trial, and informed that in case he failed in his present mission he could have a seat in the ministry, if he would thus be in a better position to get justice for his province. Of course Mr. Howe's' mission failed. He was met the following summer at Windsor by Mr. Tilley, who wrote to Sir John Macdonald an account of the interview. Mr. Howe was then willing to have a friendly conference for the solution of the difficulty. Mr. Tilley gathered from the conversation that Mr. Howe and the more reason- pressed with Charles Summer able men would abandon their opposition to confederation if some concessions were made. He begged Sir John to visit Nova Scotia before the repealers held their conference. Mr. Pupper and Mr. Archibald were of some of his western friends went to telegram sent to London from Ottawa, Nova Scotia and held a long conference with Mr. Howe. An extended account of the conference was furnished Lord Monck by Sir John once, stating that the imperial gov-Macdonald. Sir John was anxious to discuss the situation with the repeal selling the fisheries without such ap-John and Mr. Howe continued the negotiations which resulted in the minister, Lord Granville, authorizing "better terms" agreement and in the the commission to discuss the quescall of the repealer to the dominion tion of sale. Sir John floored his felcabinet.

cerning the governor of New Brunswick affords an illustration of the attitude of Governor Gordon towards the union cause. Sir William Fenwick Williams of Nova Scotia was an active confederate. Lord Monck was in the heat of the fight. General Doyle, who was lieutenant governor of Nova Scotia in 1868, was equally interested. Feeling ran strong in Nova Scotia, Attorney General Wilkins declared in the legislature that if the means adopted to secure repeal should fail the government would "appeal to another nation." General Williams asked for an explanation of these words, and writing to Sir John Mac donald afterwards stated that Mr Wilkins backed out by telling an untruth. He added that the Nova Scotia house had passed a vote of censure on him for interfering with the minister. which he had forced them to expunge. The governor wrote quite freely to the Canadian premier, who, discussing the constitutional aspects of the case informed General Doyle that the latter had made a mistake in referring to Mr. Wilkins's reported language as having been delivered in the house of ssembly. Later Sir John wrote to Mr. Howe asking whether in the event of reciprocity negotiations going forward he would go on that mission to Washington. In the course of his reply Mr. Howe says:

The letter of Sir Leonard Tilley con-

The visit of General Butter and his friends made for the purpose, scarcely disguised, of encouraging the annexation feeling, with offers of men and money, has added new

This perhaps explains the statement of Mr. Wilkins to the house and helps us to understand why Mr. Howe gradually drew away from his former repeal associates. The correspondence between Sir John and Mr. Howe forms a considerable part of the appendix. and is of great interest as illustrating the character and standpoint of the two men. In November, 1868, Sir John wrote pointing out that it was quite hopeless to discuss matters with the Nova Scotia government. To wait for any sign of conversion

their part would be like the peasant who sat by the stream till the river should pass I look upon you as the sole means, but the certain means, of arresting their downward course. Mirabeau would have arrested the French revolution if he had not prematurely died. You are the Nova Scotian Mirabeau. # There is a glorious and patrioti game before you * * You have by a life-long service of pecuniary disinterestedness in the public cause earned the right to rise far above the fear of an unworthy suspicion that you are actuated by mercena

Mr. Howe wrote a fortnight later asking Sir John to begin by making the most liberal concessions possible to the province, and not to hurry matters. Parenthetically he observed that "Mirabeau was an able man, but unprincipled and ugly as the devil."

The next serious question was the Northwest. In connection with this matter there are in the memoir letters and memoranda which throw additional light on many things, 'The view that in the purchase of the Northwest Sir George Cartier was the leading spirit is shown to be erroneous. Cartier and Campbell thought the scheme too dangerous and expensive to be undertaken at once, and counselled delay. The trouble which followed the occupation Sir John attributed mainly to the blunders of Mr. McDougall, whose conduct is sharply

take the office of commissioner of pa- Another letter to Mr. Rose states that did more good than any one else who bellion came, and after it the adminis tration of that wise and capable healer of trouble, Sir Adams Archibald. The chapter relating to the history of the first administration states that the late Hon. J. H. Pope was the first choice for finance minister, when Sir Francis Hincks was appointed, but that he could not then accept office. In this chapter appears the correspondence relating to the offer of a judgeship to Mr. Blake. At this time some friend thought that he was appointing too many grits to high office, mentioning Howland, McDougall, Gwynn and now Blake. Sir John in reply said that his only object in making judicial appointments was the effiency of the bench. Sir John was very poor in these days. He had lost by the failure of a bank and made over to creditors all his property. In the autumm of 1869, says Mr. Pope, "I do not believe he was worth a cent in the world."

The treaty of Washington was the chief diplomatic event of the first dominion administration. Sir John, as all know, was a member of the commission. While at Washington he wrote some bright and breezy letters to friends in Canada, chiefly to Sir Charles Tupper. It was Sir John's wish that the papers connected with this matter should be preserved. His biographer has devoted a chapter to this subject, and has made it one of the most interesting in the book. Sir John was not anxious to serve on the commission, but he was strongly of the opinion that the only other person suggested by the colonial office could not be accepted as the representative of the Canadian people. This was Sir John Rose, who was no longer a resident of Canada. Sir John accepted the duties with some anxiety and misgiving, knowing that he could not control the commission and that he would be obliged nevertheless to accept for Canada the responsibility for its course. He was agreeably im-General Sherman, and was greatly delighted with Ben Butler's stories. In his first interview with Lord de Grey Sir John said that he did not think Canada would favor the idea of a money consideration for the fishthe same mind, and so Sir John and eries. He took occasion to have a claiming that the Canadian fisheries could not be sold without their consent. The colonial minister replied at ernment never had any intention of convention, but no discussion in his proval. It was a fortunate thing that presence was allowed. The privilege Sir John had this telegram in his broken. Mr. Brown would not serve of addressing the convention was ac- pocket at Washington, for when he Mr. Howe. Afterwards Sir in perpetuity, Lord de Grey produce a communication from the foreign low commissioner with the message from the colonial office. The ultimate result was that Granville conceded the point as to Canadian ratification. The United States commissioners were much disappointed when they found that the treaty would be subject to

ratification. Sir John wrote: We expressed a desire to obtain reciprocity as an equivalent (for our fisheries) ** Americans offered a million dollars in perpetuity. We offered to take free fish, salt, coal, lumber and coasting trade. They refused coasting trade at once. *We offered to leave it out and take money instead. They of free coal, salt, mackerel, herring and with free lumber after 1876. * * * A for a term of years. I do not think it like ly they will offer better terms

Later Sir John telegraphed: Having nearly made up my mind that the mericans want everything and will give us nothing one of my chief aims now is to vince the British commissioners of the ss of the Yankees Again he wrote that his position

was extremely embarrassing In our separate caucusses my colle were continually pressing me to yield in fact I had no backers and I was obliged to stand

out, but I am afraid to make myself tremely disagreeable to them. Nevertheless Sir John continued to hold out and it appears that he signified to his colleagues that he would enter a formal statement of non-concurrence if they persisted in accepting the terms offered. By July 27. matters reached a crisis with the British commissioners. Sir John had submitted to his comrades a written protest against the terms proposed, expressed the opinion they would not be accepted at Ottawa, and declared that he would not defend them there. Lord de Grey proceeded to lecture him. Sir John wrote that "all the commissioners then made speeches at me." Sir John defended himself, and after the "preliminary shindy," as he describes it, they all went to the conference where Sir John was given opportunity to state his views. No progress was made for some time. and Sir John reported that he regarded himself now as holding only "a watching brief." After more scrimmages with his colleagues, Sir John wrote of them:

They seem to have only one thing in their minds, that is to go home to England with a treaty in their pockets settling everything, no matter at what cost to Canada. a treaty in their But the home government somewhat

unexpectedly came to Sir John's relief. His colleagues had telegraphed the state of affairs, saying that the treaty as it stood seemed reasonable to them, and that the terms were the best that could be got. The imperial ministers wanted a statement of Sir John's objections, and when this was sent, wired to Lord de Grev that the government thought Sir John's position was reasonable. But the strain continued. Lord de Grey commenced once more to lecture Sir John, who "was obliged to tell him very shortly that I believed I knew what my duty was and would endeavor to perform it." ' The final outcome was the treaty of Washington in which the question of compensation was left open. Sir John was not satisfied, but did not protest, and finally supported the ratification of the treaty, which turned out more satisfactory to Canada than to the United States.

Following the interesting letters from Sir John Macdonald at Washington to Sir Charles Tupper is one to Sir George Cartier which explained CURES

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the reasons which finally induced the Canadian plenipotentiary to sign the treaty. In the course of this letter Sir John stated that the protocols of the treaty were formal only, and that at the end of the negotiations a condensed statement of what had occurred was prepared. Sir John remarks that this condensed statement correctly reported the observations of the British commissioners. But the Americans, he said,

inserted certain statements as having been made by them, which in fact never were made, but which they think it of importance that they may have effect on the senate. My English colleagues were a good deal sur-prised at the proposition, but as the state-ments did not prejudice England, we left them at liberty to lie as much as they liked. this when we meet.

The admission of British Columbia to the dominion was assisted by Governor Musgrave of that colony. But Sir John Macdonald was early behind the scenes, for he had previously asked the imperial government, through the governor general, to have Mr. Musgrave transferred from Newfoundland to British Columbia to replace Governor Seymour, whose influence was supposed to be unfriendly to union. The sudden death of Governor Seymour was followed within a week by the appointment of Musgrave. It had been suggested that Newfoundland should be added to Canada by an imperial act in spite of the hostility of the colonial legislature, but Sir John Macdonald in a private letter declares that this would never do. and the matter must be left to work itself out. He also declined to initiate negotiations with Prince Edward Island, though he welcomed the delegation which came with authority to negotiate at Ottawa. The previous trouble with Nova Scotia did not encourage premature action in bringing other colonies into the union.

The election campaign of 1872 and the affair known as the Pacific scandal is: treated quite fully in the memoirs. A somewhat rash lecture delivered by Mr. Howe in Ottawa, in which Mr. Howe assumed a rather defiant tone toward the imperial authorities, made trouble in the cabinet. The opposition organs held the government responsible, and Mr. Howe's dismissal was demanded by some of his colleagues. Sir Francis Hincks wrote to his leader advising Sir John to insist on Mr. Howe's' resignation, but Sir John stood by his old friend. After the election Hincks resigned. Then Sir George Cartier died, and when the Pacific scandal charges came up the premier was without his ablest supporter in each of the old provinces of Canada. The last private letters of Sir George Cartier, written from England, where he died, afford the best answer that is needed to the statements that Sir George distrusted Sir John at the last. The extracts given make it appear that the relations of the two old comrades remained confidential and affectionate to the end.

Mr. Pope's story of the Pacific Rail-

way contract and the events that grew out of it is partly a recital of the facts which are known to the public as matters of public record. The principal new contribution is a statement fifteen pages long addressed to Lord Dufferin, Oct. 9, 1873, a fortnight after Sir John had given his evidence, and three weeks before his resignation. The letter is an argumentative recital of the circumstances attending the Pacific Railway negotiations and the election subscriptions. The argument is in the main the same as was used later in his speech in the house of commons. But the letter o Dufferin shows that Sir George Curtier exceeded his authority in his promises to Sir Hugh Allan during the election campaign. Sir George was carrying on the contest in Quebec province while the premier was in Ontario. Sir George promised S'r Hugh that if the project of amalgamating the various railway companies failed "the construction of the railway should be confided to the Canadian Pacific company, of which Sir Hugh was the head," Now Sir John Macdonald s claim, as advanced ever afterwards, was that he had kept the

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