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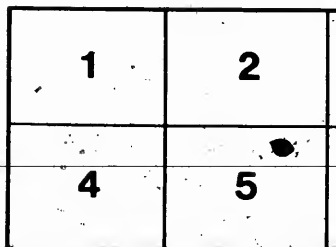
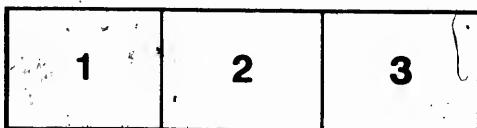
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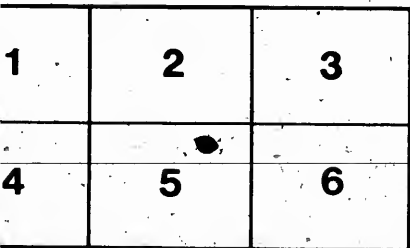
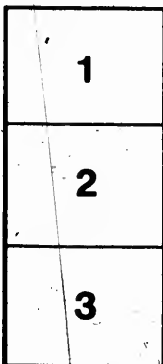
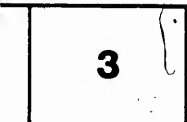
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ALGOMA ELECTION.

Messrs. DAWSON AND PLUMMER

BROUGHT TO BOOK.

**Their Charges Against the Mowat Government
Met and Refuted.**

**Inconsistencies and Misrepresentations
Exposed.**

JUNE, 1883.



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ELECTORS OF ALGOMA!

It will be your duty ere long to again elect a member to represent the district in the Legislature of Ontario. You will be asked to pass judgment upon the Government of Hon. Mr. Mowat, who has once more received the confidence of the Province at large, and to say, as between that Government and the present Opposition, which in your opinion is better fitted to guard the interests and direct the affairs of our country. In making such a decision, partisanship should be laid aside, and the judgment rendered should be based, not on matters of local concern only, but on those which affect the country and the Province as a whole.

The Mowat Government ask for your support on the ground that they have administered well and economically the finances of the Province; that they have passed well-considered and beneficial laws on nearly every subject committed to their care; that they have given every possible encouragement to the agricultural and other interests of the Province, and assisted largely in the development of its resources; that they have wisely controlled and guided our educational affairs, and managed well our public institutions; that they have aided in opening up and settling the new and outlying portions of the Province, and looked carefully after their interests; and, above all, because they have ever stood up boldly and manfully for the territorial and legislative rights of the Province when there have been assailed, as repeatedly and wantonly they have been.

On what grounds do the Opposition claim your support? On their lack of statesmanship and general unfruitfulness? On their inability to do more than feebly criticize the acts of the Government? Or on the fact that whenever they have had the chance they have come out as enemies of the Province, and as friends and abettors of those who would deprive her of her clearest rights? Between such a Government (which, after eleven years of office, is able to show a surplus of nearly \$5,000,000) and such an Opposition, there is no room for choice. Patriotism, as well as regard for good government, pronounces in favor of the Mowat Administration.

It is their inability to bring any well-founded objections or charges against the Government that induces their opponents to attempt to stir up sectional feelings and local prejudices, as their only hope of obtaining votes. This is being done in the present election, and particularly by Mr. S. J. Dawson, M.P.; and Mr. W. H. Plummer, which latter gentleman aspires to represent you in the Legislature.

MR. DAWSON'S MANIFESTO.

Mr. Dawson, in his large, paternal way, issues a manifesto from Ottawa against the present Government and the gentleman whom you have twice honored with your confidence, Mr. R. A. Lyon, and takes

advantage of his position as a member of Parliament to scatter it broadcast over the district, postage free. Mr. Dawson, it seems, is not content with the honor of being your member in the House of Commons; he must needs dictate to you who you are to choose as your representative at Toronto. Nor does Mr. Dawson attempt to discuss the situation from a provincial standpoint; he relies wholly upon an appeal to the prejudices which he supposes to exist in the minds of the electors.

MR. DAWSON AND MR. LYON.

With his unfounded attacks and vague charges against Mr. Lyon we have little to do here, especially as that gentleman is well able to defend himself. All who are acquainted with Mr. Lyon, however, know that he is unwearied in his devotion to the interests of his constituents, and unflinching in his endeavors to promote the general good of the district he represents. His record, in fact, in this respect will compare favorably with that of Mr. S. J. Dawson himself. The latter blames Mr. Lyon for not having induced the Government to expend larger sums for Colonization Road purposes in Algoma. What are the facts? For the years 1876, 1877 and 1878 (the period during which Mr. Dawson represented the district in the local House) the total amount so appropriated and expended was \$30,412, while for the three years following, Mr. Lyon being then your member, the grants amounted to \$57,807, or nearly twice as much as in Mr. Dawson's time! So that, following out Mr. Dawson's own reasoning, Mr. Lyon has been twice as successful in promoting the interests of Algoma in this respect as Mr. Dawson was; and here it may be remarked that since Mr. Lyon has represented the District, no less a sum than \$100,000 has been expended on Colonization Roads alone. Again, Mr. Dawson blames Mr. Lyon for not having obtained additional representation for the district in the Local House. Mr. Lyon, as is well known, is a strong advocate of this measure, and took precisely the same means to secure it as did Mr. Dawson, bringing the matter up on the floor of the House, and pressing it upon the consideration of the Government. The latter were not in a position to deal with the question before the census of 1881 was taken, and were probably averse to making so important a change during the closing session of the late Parliament, but there cannot be any doubt that Algoma will in the early future receive the additional representation to which she is entitled. If Mr. Dawson censures the Government of Ontario for not giving increased representation to Algoma, why does he not blame the Dominion Government for pursuing a similar course? Algoma has but one representative in the House of Commons, yet Mr. Dawson does not raise his voice in condemnation of Sir John Macdonald and his Government for this. It may be he thinks himself quite equal to two or any greater number of members. At any rate, in this as in other matters, Sir John has few more servile followers in the House than Mr. S. J. Dawson.

THE "SPOILIATION" OF ALGOMA.

Mr. Dawson's chief charge against the Government is that they have failed to expend a sufficient quantity of money in Algoma for Colonization Road and other like purposes. He talks wildly of "plunder" and "spoliation," and lays it down as a principle that "every dollar of revenue" collected from the district should be expended in developing it. Mr. Dawson knows full well that this is a

principle which has never been recognized by any Government, nor could it possibly be; and that the forest and other resources of our newer districts have always been looked upon as the inheritance of the people at large. Consider how such a system would work. Along the banks of the Ottawa and its tributaries are tracts of well timbered country from which the Provincial Treasury derives larger revenues every year than from Algoma. Considerable portions of these tracts are unfit for settlement, yet if Mr. Dawson's principle were admitted, all the moneys drawn from them would have to be expended within their boundaries. It would be as fair to ask that the total amount of the customs' duties collected at the ports of Montreal and Toronto should be expended within those cities. The people of Algoma and other new districts get their land for nothing, or in some cases at a merely nominal rate per acre; they are assisted in building the roads they require; large sums are expended upon public works and improvements within these districts; relief is extended to settlers in distress; and yet Mr. Dawson complains because "every dollar" collected by the Government in Algoma is not expended there.

MR. DAWSON'S INCONSISTENCY.

Mr. Dawson in 1883, however, differs from Mr. Dawson in 1878 on this point. In the latter year, when speaking in the Local House in connection with his motion for additional electoral representation for Algoma, he said: "*He was far from claiming that the revenue derived from any particular district should be wholly expended within it, but he would say that in a poor and new country like Algoma, a fair proportion of the sums accruing from its woods and forests, which were its chief sources of revenue, should be expended in opening it up.*" That is to say, Mr. Dawson, to use his own words, was "far from claiming" a few years ago what he now denounces the Government for not doing! Inconsistency could not much further go. But even judged by Mr. Dawson's own test, namely, that a "fair proportion" of the revenues derived from the district should be expended in developing it, the Government stand uncondemned. They have, in fact, as we shall give the figures to prove, done much more than this, but Mr. Dawson's eyes are apparently so blinded by party feeling that he is unable to do justice to his political opponents. Mr. Meredith, the leader of the Opposition, agrees with the position taken by Mr. Dawson in 1878, and is opposed to him now. In 1879, upon a motion made by Mr. Lyon similar to the above, Mr. Meredith expressed himself in language which leaves no doubt as to the attitude of the Opposition on this point. Referring to some remarks of Mr. Miller, Mr. Meredith said; "The hon. member for Muskoka spoke of the timber and other resources of the unsettled districts as belonging to the people of that part of the province. This was wrong, for these revenues belonged to the whole of Ontario." It will be seen from this that even in the improbable event of Mr. Meredith's accession to power, he has in advance declared himself as opposed to the absurd contentions of Mr. Dawson. It is now in order for the latter gentleman, if he is minded to undertake so difficult a task, to reconcile his utterances of 1878 with those of 1883, as well as to harmonize his present position with that of the Opposition leader, Mr. Meredith.

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE IN THE DISTRICT.

But the official figures prove that the present Government have been liberal in their dealings with Algoma. They prove that leaving out of sight the receipts from the sale of mining and other lands and Algoma taxes, the whole of the revenue derived from the district has been expended within it. The collections on account of timber dues, ground rent and sale of timber berths, in the district from Confederation to the present time, amount to \$560,713, while the total expenditure within the district during the same time for Surveys, Colonization Roads, Public Works, Administration of Criminal Justice, Education, Agriculture and Arts, Aid to P. A. Landing and Kaminstiquia Railway and Surplus Distribution, has been \$666,104, or a sum actually in excess of the receipts from woods and forests. And this does not include Algoma's share of the cost of Civil Government and Legislation, which if added to the above amount, would increase it far beyond the amount received from timber sources. These figures are sufficient to show how unfounded is Mr. Dawson's statement that the district is being robbed and plundered by the Government. All his talk about "spoliation" falls to the ground, and can only be looked on as an attempt to misrepresent the state of affairs and excite sectional feeling.

ROAD OVERSEERS AND SUPPLIES.

The employment of experienced roadmakers, who do not live within the district, upon some of the Colonization Roads, and the purchasing of supplies in the wholesale markets for use on such roads, is also displeasing to Mr. Dawson. With regard to the first it may be noted (1) that Mr. Dawson never objected to the practice while in the Legislature, and (2) that the employment of experienced men, with whom roadmaking is a profession, obviates the necessity of appointing a Road Inspector at a large salary who would otherwise be necessary. As to supplies, Mr. Dawson knows very well that they can be bought at lower figures and to greater advantage in the wholesale markets than in Algoma itself, as the Government, dealing at first-hand and paying cash, can command more favorable rates than ordinary merchants. The money saved in this way is of course so much more to be expended upon the works. The Government are not bound to any particular market, and if they found they could obtain supplies as cheaply in Algoma as elsewhere, they would undoubtedly buy them there.

TIMBER REGULATIONS.

Mr. Dawson makes the statement that "the settlers' trees are cut at their very doors," and of course blames the Government for allowing this to be done. The rules and regulations governing the cutting of timber under license from the Crown now are the same as they were when that gentleman himself sat in the Local House, and it is not on record that he ever proposed any change. These rules and regulations allow the settler to cut and use all the pine he may require for building, fencing or fuel purposes. As in other parts of the Province, licensees have the right to cut pine timber upon the lands covered by their licenses, but this does not interfere with the settler or deprive him of any of his property, as by the terms of

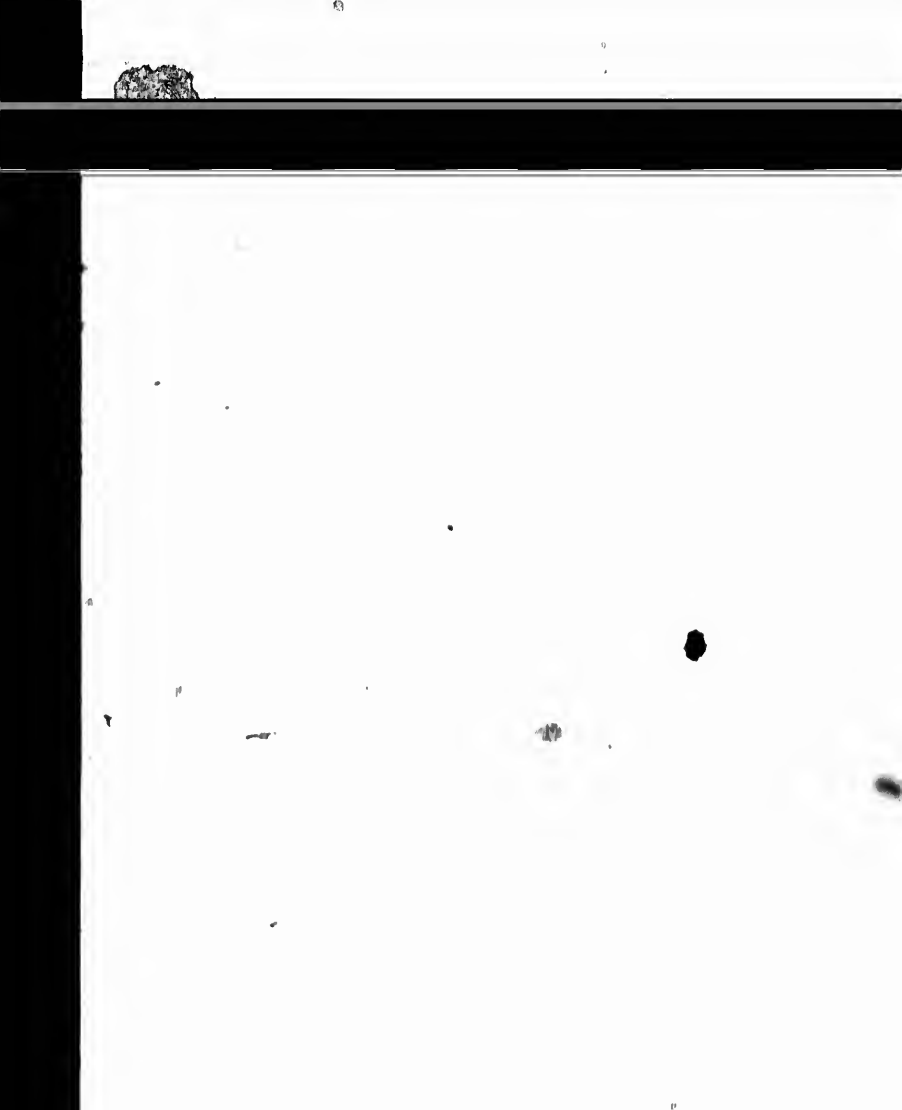
location and settlement the pine is specially reserved to the Crown. If any infringing upon the rights of the settler is done it is not by the Government or by their authority, as they are always careful and anxious to afford those rights the fullest possible protection.

ONTARIO AND SAULT STE. MARIE RAILWAY.

The Mowat Administration have ever done all that lay in their power to promote the interests of Algoma. Besides the expenditure of money for the objects before mentioned, they have placed upon the statute-book a standing offer of \$855,000 to be paid to any railway company which will build a railway from Gravenhurst in Muskoka to Sault Ste. Marie. There is very good reason to believe that this offer will be accepted at an early day by the Grand Trunk Railway Company, and that ere long Sault Ste. Marie and the whole of the North Shore of Lake Huron will be connected not only with the Ontario system of railways, but with the proposed line which is to be built along the south shore of Lake Superior to afford an additional outlet for the traffic of the great North-West. The advantages of such a road to Algoma will be many and obvious, and need not be enlarged upon here. Suffice it to say, that if the miserable "balance of trade" theory propounded by Messrs. Dawson and Plummer were adopted by the Government, such a grant could not be made, as the revenues of the district would not permit of it. The Government, however, not accepting the views of these gentlemen, are enabled to make this munificent offer, the acceptance of which will push forward the development of the district at a hitherto unequalled rate. Such an offer is answer sufficient to the slander that the Government are neglecting the interests of the important District of Algoma. The absurdity of Mr. Dawson's present contention, that all the moneys derived from the district ought of necessity to be expended within it, is seen at a glance. If it is correct, then it necessarily follows that where no revenue is obtained no money ought to be expended. Manitoulin Island, as you know, is composed entirely of Indian lands, and the Ontario Government, beyond a trifling sum, obtains nothing in the way of revenue from it. On this island alone the grants for Colonization Road purposes during the last five or six years have amounted to \$30,000. If Mr. Dawson's views were to prevail, these grants would have to be stopped at once, because the Government gets no revenue from the island, and the settlers there would forever be deprived of the benefits which the construction of these roads confers upon them. The Government, according to Mr. Dawson, would be quite justified in stopping these grants, but they continue them because such expenditure is in the public interest, and because they desire to aid in all possible ways the development of every part of the district, regardless of whether it produces revenue or not.

THE FINANCIAL ASPECT.

It has already been stated that the financial administration of the present Government has been such as to leave on hand the substantial surplus of about \$5,000,000. This surplus has been accumulated notwithstanding the large amounts that have been paid out in many ways to the people of Ontario, amounting in all, since 1871, to upwards of \$25,000,000. Of this sum no less than \$3,400,000 has been granted as aid to railways, and the result has been that over





2,000 miles of railway have been built which otherwise would probably have never been constructed at all, and which cover the Province with a network of iron. This, taken in connection with the large expenditure on colonization roads, may be looked upon as an indication of what the present Government are prepared to do in the way of developing the newer districts of the Province; now that the time for the active opening up and settlement thereof has arrived.

The Government have been most liberal in their expenditure on education, the grants for this purpose since 1871 aggregating no less than \$4,347,000. A large sum has gone to the new and poorer sections of the Province, where the settlers are unable to sustain the whole burden of maintaining their schools themselves, and Algoma may expect to be dealt with in the future in this respect even more liberally than she has been in the past.

For Agriculture and Arts the expenditure during the same period has been \$1,086,000, a considerable part of which has gone to assist township and other agricultural societies. Last session the grant in aid of such societies in the "outlying districts"—including, of course, Algoma—was greatly increased.

Algoma, in common with the rest of the provinces, has been largely benefited by these expenditures, and it is known that still greater efforts, by building Colonization Roads, and making other public improvements, would ere now have been made to develop that portion of the district known as the "disputed territory" had the Award been confirmed to Ontario. The illegal withholding of this territory from the Province has had the natural effect of preventing the expenditure of provincial moneys within it on an extensive scale, yet, even in the existing state of affairs, the Ontario Government have erected a jail and court-house at Rat Portage, appointed officers to administer justice, and otherwise taken such steps to meet the requirements of the inhabitants as was possible under the circumstances. As soon as the title of Ontario is recognized to this territory, vigorous measures will be adopted by the Government to open up and develop it.

These moneys have all been expended by Ontario, the only Province in the Dominion which has a surplus on hand, and the only Province whose income will enable her to go on and lay out her funds with a liberal hand where they are required in the interest of her people. Mr. Plummer, the Opposition candidate, desires to cast half the district over to another Province, whose revenues, compared with those of Ontario, are very small, and in fact not equal to her present requirements. Is it in the nature of things that that other Province can administer to the wants of the inhabitants of such territory so well, or can assist so largely in its development, as Ontario, the wealthiest Province in the Dominion?

MR. PLUMMER'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Plummer has also issued an address, but so far as it contains anything at all, it is but an echo of Mr. Dawson's, and the charges made in it have already been met and refuted. It will be noticed that Mr. Plummer, as well as Mr. Dawson, appeals solely to local feeling, and does not so much as mention the great provincial issues which are now, and which have been for some time, before the country.

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Were Mr. Plummer able to make a satisfactory defence of the course which his party has pursued in the matter of the power of Disallowance or the Boundary Award, he would probably do so. But he passes over these great questions without a word, and admits by his silence that he has no defence to offer. If Mr. Plummer is elected, he will vote to throw away, as worthless, an immense area of valuable country which has always been considered as forming part of the district, and to contract the limits of Algoma to less than half their present extent.

THE DOMINION MINING REGULATIONS.

He will support his party in transferring that part of Ontario known as the "disputed territory" to the Dominion, and the kind of treatment which the settlers will receive, should this transfer take place, may be judged by the mining regulations which were lately issued by the Dominion Government. These regulations were of the harshest and most illiberal nature, and, as is well known, caused the utmost dissatisfaction in the Rat Portage and other mining sections. The Ontario regulations as to mining lands, on the other hand, are of the most liberal and satisfactory kind, and afford the utmost freedom to those working mines. After purchasing their lands and paying for them at the rate of \$1.00 per acre, the miners are left free to work their mines in such way and manner as will best suit their purpose. There are no reservations, no royalties, and no vexatious rules to hamper them in their operations. The obnoxious regulations issued by the Dominion Government were, it is alleged, withdrawn when it was seen how great was the dissatisfaction which they created, but the fact that they were issued at all shows the illiberal spirit in which that Government propose to deal with the new territory should it come into their possession. This is the Government which Mr. Plummer supports, and whose policy, in this and other respects, he and his party in Ontario uphold. The people in the districts referred to can judge from these mining regulations and similar acts on the part of the Dominion Government, in whose hands their interests would be better protected.

Electors! Are you willing to be treated as Mr. Dawson proposes to treat you, viz., as a separate part of Ontario, having nothing in common with the rest of the Province? Are you willing to be considered, as Mr. Dawson considers you, so sectional and narrow that you care nothing for any portion of Ontario but Algoma? Mr. Dawson attempts unfairly to arouse your sectional prejudices, and insults your judgment by dealing only with local matters, and with these dishonestly, and keeping silent about the manner in which the Government have managed the public affairs of the country. Were Mr. Dawson addressing the electors of York or Middlesex, he would feel himself obliged to touch on topics of a provincial kind, yet, in speaking to you, he makes scarcely any mention of these at all. You will resent the slight Mr. Dawson seeks to put upon you, and show him not only that you are interested in the Province as a whole, but that you are as capable of taking as intelligent a view of public affairs, and as capable of casting an intelligent vote, as are the electors of the counties above-mentioned, or any other county in the Province.

Men of Algoma! you have a special and direct interest in this Boundary Award question beyond that of the people in any other part

of the Province. Are you willing that the timber limits, of great extent and value, which exist in various parts of your territory, the mineral riches which abound in others, the fertile valleys which await and invite settlement, should be detached from your district and Province, and abandoned without an effort to retain them? Do you wish to cut off from you thousands of square miles, rich in agricultural and forest resources, and destined to be the homes of a happy and industrious people? If so, support the Opposition candidate, who will vote to bring this about. If, on the other hand, you desire to see this territory remain an integral part of your district as well as of the Province, cast your ballots in support of Mr. Lyon and an honest and patriotic Government.









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