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London, Thursday, Feb. 5.

THE SITUATION.

The Dominion Government has dissolved Parliament a year in advance of the legal period, and a general election has been fixed for March 5 next.

That the position of the party is critical may be gathered from the tactics pursued by its leaders.

The Macdonald Government passed the N. P. high tax law with the avowed object of bringing the United States to its knees.

Under one pretence or another, the Government has managed to prevent the policy of high taxation from being decided on its merits.

For months past, the friends of the combines have been conceiving a dodge intended to once more humbug and deceive the people.

First, hints were thrown out that reciprocity negotiations were in progress, and it was represented to the Toronto Mail that the Imperial authorities were pressing the Government to begin the negotiation of a treaty.

The Empire, which was started with subscriptions collected from the protected combines, and which is still sustained by the money received from them, thereupon pretended to deny the rumor in this shape:

"The Empire is authorized to give this statement an unqualified denial. Not only is it not true, but, on the contrary, it is learned from the very best sources that the Canadian Government has recently been approached by the United States Government with a view to the development of trade relations between the two countries, and that our Government has requested the advice of her Majesty's Government on the subject."

This rumor had its intended effect. The story grew, it was elaborated by restriction organs; members of combines chuckled at the idea of their friends and patrons at Ottawa being able to "dish" the Liberals by their pretences, while giving ample assurance that the high tax policy, so far as it favored the combines, would be left untouched. This view was propounded by Mr. Chapple at Kingston; it was sustained by Sir John Macdonald at a banquet in Toronto last week, when he declared, "We are going to stand by our National Policy."

But the bubble has been pricked: "A Rochester Congressman, who has intimate trade relations with Canada, wrote to Mr. Blaine, asking him if the declarations of the Empire and of the Dominion Ministers were true. Mr. Blaine is the chief spirit in the United States Government, and he wrote for it when he replied to that inquiry in this strain:

"I authorize you to contradict the rumors you refer to. There are no negotiations whatever on foot for a reciprocity treaty with Canada, and you may be assured no such scheme for 'reciprocity' with the Dominion confined to natural products will be entertained by the Government. We know nothing of Sir Charles Tupper coming to Washington."

Despite this announcement, the Dominion Government has now caused to be printed the following letter, which has been sent to Lord Knutsford, Secretary of State for the Colonies. The Governor-General is a mere figurehead; his propositions therefore emanate from the Cabinet:

OTTAWA, Dec. 13, 1890.
My Lord,—I have the honor to send you herewith a telegraphic message in cipher, of which the following is the substance:

With reference to my telegram of the 10th inst., this Government is desirous of proposing a joint commission, such as that of 1871, with authority to deal without limitation, and to prepare a treaty respecting the following subjects:

1. Renewal of the reciprocity treaty of 1854, with the modifications required by the altered circumstances of both countries, and with the extensions deemed by the commission to be in the interests of Canada and the United States.

2. Recognition of the treaty of 1883, with respect to the Atlantic fisheries, with the aim of securing the free admission into the United States markets of Canadian fishery products in return for facilities to be granted to United States fishermen to buy bait and supplies, and to transport cargoes in Canada—all such privileges to be mutual.

3. Protection of the seaboard coasting laws of the two countries.

4. Relaxation of the seaboard coasting laws of the two countries.

5. Mutual salvage and saving of wrecked vessels.

7. Arrangements for settling the boundary between Canada and Alaska.

The treaty would of course be ad referendum.

(Signed) STANLEY OF PRESTON.

In view of the wriggling and twisting of the men who have been engineering the little game to hoodwink the electors that is so effectively exposed by Mr. Blaine's letter, it is not difficult to believe that there is absolute truth in what an active Montreal

Conservative and politician admitted yesterday. He declared that Sir John Macdonald was privately assuring the "protection" manufacturers that nothing would come of the proposal to treat with the United States Executive, and that this would be made clear immediately after the elections. If the Government was sustained. The exponent of the discredited tricksters at Ottawa seems to be not a death-bed repentance, but a dodge to bamboozle the electors.

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cannot be tied up or silenced. They cannot be prevented from working to drive from power the men who, for their selfish ends, and in a hopeless panic, rush on the elections before the lists compiled two years ago are revised.

No Government can be justified in so treating the bone and sinew of the Province, and our Toronto contemporary rightly characterizes the action as robbery and an outrage. Let it be remembered at the polls.

THE WHOLESALE BUSINESS HURT BY RESTRICTION

Mr. Davidson, the president of the Toronto Board of Trade, is candid enough to admit that one result of a high tariff is to concentrate the wholesale trade of a country, and in his annual address he quotes the trade tables to show that in the past years the wholesale trade of Toronto has grown at a much faster rate than the rest of the Province. The same fact was shown in the columns of the Advertiser some time ago, but we do not think that to any person outside of Toronto it can be quoted as evidence of the worth or usefulness of high tariff. During the period of a revenue tariff Toronto did not possess the advantage, and the progress made by its trade centers was not behind that of London, Hamilton, Brantford, Guelph, Stratford, St. Thomas and Chatham would do very much larger business than is now possible, and that all sections of country tributary there would prosper with them. If any doubts this, let him look at the records of the towns of Michigan for the last many years.

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The Great Blood Purifier.

A Word to the People. "Truth is Mighty, and will prevail."

THE remarkable effects and most satisfactory results, in every variety of disease arising from IMPURITIES OF THE BLOOD, which are experienced and made manifest from day to day, by those who have taken NORTROP & LYMAN'S VEGETABLE DISCOVERY, for complaints which were pronounced incurable, are surprising to all. In many of these cases, the persons say their pain and sufferings cannot be expressed, as in cases of Scrofula, where apparently the whole body was one mass of corruption.

This celebrated medicine will relieve pain, cleanse and purify the blood, and cure such diseases, restoring the patient to perfect health after trying many remedies, and having suffered for years. Is it not conclusive proof that if you are a sufferer you can be cured? Why is this medicine performing such great cures? It works in the BLOOD, the Circulating Fluid. It can truly be called the

GREAT BLOOD PURIFIER.

The great source of disease originates in the BLOOD, and no medicine that does not act directly upon it, to purify and renovate, has any just claim upon public attention. When the blood becomes lifeless and stagnant, either from change of weather or of climate, want of exercise, irregular diet, or from any other cause, NORTROP & LYMAN'S VEGETABLE DISCOVERY will renew the Blood, carry off the putrid humors, cleanse the stomach, regulate the bowels, and impart a tone of vigor to the whole body.

The conviction is, in the public mind as well as the medical profession, that the remedies supplied by the VEGETABLE KINGDOM are more safe and more efficacious in the cure of disease than mineral medicines. The Vegetable Discovery is composed of the juice of most remarkable roots, herbs and berries. It is pleasant to take, and is perfectly safe to give an infant. Allow us to ask you a candid question:—Do you need it? Do not hesitate to try it. You will never regret it. All druggists have it for sale.

Mr. J. C. Fox, Olinda, writes:—"Nortrop & Lyman's Vegetable Discovery is giving good satisfaction. Those who have used it say it has done them more good than anything they have ever taken."

IN ITS WORST FORM.—Miss JULIA A. PULSWORTH, Toronto, writes:—"I had Dyspepsia in its worst form for over a year, but after taking three bottles of Nortrop & Lyman's Vegetable Discovery, a perfect cure followed. I take great pleasure in recommending it to anyone suffering from Dyspepsia."

Mr. W. THAVEN, Wright, P.Q., had DYSPEPSIA FOR TWENTY YEARS. Tried many remedies and doctors, but got no relief. His appetite was very poor, had a distressing pain in his side and stomach, and gradual wasting away of flesh, when he heard of and immediately commenced taking Nortrop & Lyman's Vegetable Discovery. The pains have left, and he rejoices in the enjoyment of excellent health; in fact he is quite a new man.

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