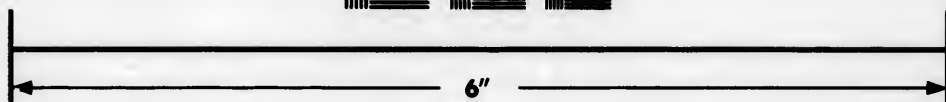
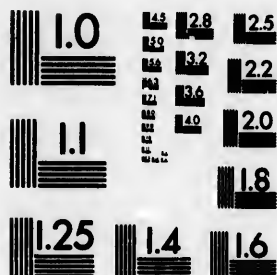


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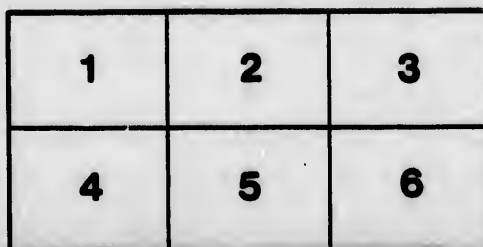
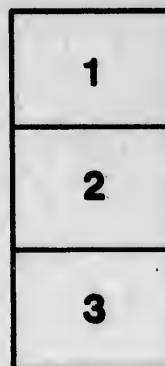
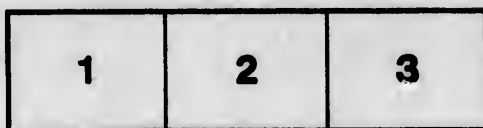
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FACTS

— FOR THE —

ELECTORS.

DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT.

Parliament, on the eve of a session, without any notice, before the end of its natural term, has suddenly been dissolved.

Why are we, in the very midst of winter, with but a few days to discuss the great questions interesting the country, called upon to elect men who will be our absolute rulers for the next five years? The circumstances are so extraordinary that every man, whatever his party may belong to, must be compelled to ask the above question. The answer we believe is: The administration was afraid to meet the representatives of the people. The Government, afraid to meet the representatives of the people, has imposed upon the people generally, and the Electors in particular, under the name of protection: the rapid increase of our public debt, the mal-administration of our affairs: the various evils which have come, and are coming to light, in connection with Mr. Grevy, the minister of public works, Rykert and others, have produced such indignation throughout the country that the administration have quailed before the storm, and like cowards have fled from the arena. In parliament assembled, that great court of the nation. There the investigation would be conducted by the representatives of the people, calmly and deliberately, with ample time at their disposal, and with the right to call for all papers and documents bearing upon the mal-administration of our affairs. The administration evidently felt that they could not meet such an investigation. The great question was, how to avoid it. The only way was to dissolve Parliament. An honest appeal to the people, in the usual way, for their decision is of course both constitutional and correct. But this is not an honest appeal. The right for the people to decide and pronounce upon the conduct of the Government, carries with it the right to have ample opportunity to investigate that conduct and pronounce upon it. This has not been allowed. The Government have by this sudden dissolution sought to

...the government of our country should be ...
...board, and the people will know how to defeat, by their votes,
...at tricks or surprise.

AGRICULTURAL DEPRESSION.

There is one question however on which the electors require no time or delay to arrive at a conclusion, and that is the sad state of depression—almost of ruin—in which the agricultural interests of our country is now found. Every farmer knows too well his want of prosperity. His own empty pocket speaks more eloquently, and more forcibly, on this point, than the most gifted orator in the country. Nature has given to us one of the finest and of the richest countries in the world. Our inhabitants have sprung from ancestors whose energy, intelligence and business capacity, have enabled them to out-strip, in the race of life, the inhabitants of every country in the world. The inventive skill of the present age has placed in the hands of the farmer tools and implements of agriculture which enable him to do more work on his farm in a day than his father could in a week. By our means of transport by rail and by water we are placed in communication with every market in the world. Yet in spite of these great natural advantages, in place of prosperity we have distress and almost ruin. The value of farm property has shrunk at least one-third in value from what it was ten years ago. The profits of the farm have decreased in the same proportion. Ontario is without doubt the most prosperous Province in the Dominion, and the Government cannot complain if we take that as a sample for the Dominion. What is the state of the rural population there?

From 1872 to 1879, 7 years, the population increased 84,603 souls; from 1879 to 1888, 9 years, it increased 11,000 souls. In the 7 years before the National Policy it increased 73,603 souls more than during the nine following years under the National Policy. In other words the population increased about eight times more during the first seven years than it did during the last nine.

In fifty counties in Ontario the rural population has actually decreased. We know too well how our own Province has suffered in the same direction. There is not a family amongst us who has not one of its members or near relatives living in the United States, tempted there by greater opportunities, and driven from their homes by the stagnation of our own country. The United States census of last year showed over 1,000,000 Canadians living there, a large proportion of them gone over since the N. P. came into force. Among them a great number of factory operatives who have failed to find employment in the Canadian manufactories promised by the N. P.

REASONS IN THE CASE IN WHICH THE LIBERAL PARTY AND THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY TREAT THEIR DEPRESSION.

When any person mentions this alarming condition of our population, to the supporters of the present administration, he is at once charged with running down the country, want of patriotism and disloyalty. No attempt is made to explain the cause or procure a remedy. The facts, however, cannot be doubted.

How different is the conduct of the Hon. Mr. Laurier and his supporters. The facts having been established beyond a doubt, they honestly and courageously set about to investigate the cause and to procure a remedy. Can any honest man have any doubt as to which is the better course? How much longer does Sir John expect to silence the farmers who speak of their distress by charging them with want of patriotism, or those who speak of the remedy by charging them with being guilty of treason?

CAUSE OF THE PRESENT AGRICULTURAL DEPRESSION.

The want of prosperity among the agricultural portion of our population must be attributed to one of the following causes or to a number of them combined:—

1st—Artificial barriers in the way of tariffs which restrict the sale of the farm produce, or lessen its price.

2nd—Artificial barriers in the way of tariffs which increase the price of nearly everything which the farmer, in the course of his business, is compelled to buy.

3rd—Impositions in the way of taxation which seriously affects this prosperity.

1. The real cause of our agricultural depression lies in the artificial barriers, placed between the farmer and the market in which he sells his produce. Let us see to what market the farmer sends his produce. We find at once that he has two great markets, Great Britain and the United States.

THE ENGLISH MARKET.

To Great Britain we send our butter, cheese, and a portion of our animals. Great Britain does not of course adopt the system of Protection, and we have her markets free. She affords to us an example of the great advantage of freedom of trade. Did England impose even the smallest duty upon our butter and cheese, it would simply mean our ruin. There is not a Protected country in the world in which we could sell these articles of farm produce.

THE MARKET OF THE UNITED STATES.

Besides the market of Great Britain, the farmers of the Dominion have no other market except the United States. There we have

and the only market for about one half of our farm produce. If we examine the Dominion exports for the last year we will understand how large a quantity of our most important farm produce finds a market in the United States, and what a small proportion of the same articles find their way to England.

We exported,

	To Great Britain.	To the United States.
Horses.....	\$ 26,975	\$2,119,782
Sheep.....	303,009	918,334
Poultry.....	1,127	110,793
Eggs.....	18	2,156,725
Hides.....	7,070	454,105
Wool.....	470	216,918
Flax.....	.....	121,807
Barley.....	3,838	6,454,003
Beans.....	.....	405,534
Hay.....	84,610	822,381
Malt.....	.....	105,183
Potatoes.....	245	195,576
Vegetables.....	514	52,660
Total.....	\$427,876	\$14,124,801

These figures show that Canada sold to the United States thirty-four times as much of the above articles as to Great Britain. The farmer does not however get the above \$14,124,801. On his way to the market he is stopped by a customs officer, and is compelled to give to the latter a large portion of the money he has received. Without figuring out exactly the duty on each article, it is safe to say, the farmer was compelled to hand over between three and four millions of the above sum to the officer guarding our frontiers. The farmer is therefore so much the poorer.

This is not however the full measure of his loss. As the tariff now stands, since the McKinley Bill came in force trade in the above articles, or at least many of them, is practically prohibited. Look at the items for horses, eggs, barley and hay and we find over ten millions of dollars of trade practically cut off. This is not only an explanation of one of the great causes of depression but also a most alarming state of affairs.

2. Let us now examine the artificial barriers which increase the price of nearly everything the farmer has to buy in the course of his business.

The following list will show the average number of implements used on farms in our Province, the value, and the amount of duty paid on each:—

Implements	Value	Price
Harvester.....	\$110 71	50 15
Mower.....	30 00	15 50
Seed drill.....	27 40	6 55
Ploughs, 2.....	36 52	13 55
Harrows, 2.....	22 80	8 00
Gang plough.....	15 00	3 89
Cultivator.....	36 00	9 34
Horse-rake.....	22 00	5 17
Scuffler.....	16 00	4 15
Turnip drill.....	15 00	3 89
Roller.....	16 00	4 15
Fanning mill.....	28 50	9 97
Waggons, 2.....	129 34	53 06
Sleigh.....	14 23	4 39
Buggy.....	70 52	29 00
Cutter.....	14 23	4 39
Horse-power.....	88 00	22 82
Straw cutter.....	40 00	10 86
Horse fork pulleys.....	26 00	6 00
Double harness.....	60 00	15 56
Single harness.....	22 00	5 71
Kit of tools.....	20 00	3 50
Hay knife.....	3 15	2 51
Forks, 5.....	} 2 20	1 00
Hoes, 3.....		
Churn.....	7 00	1 40
Clothes washer.....	16 20	3 70
Clothes wringer.....	2 28	1 67
Sewing machine.....	33 90	9 77
Stoves, 2.....	38 00	8 77
Scythes, 3.....	4 70	2 30
Picks, spades, shovel.....	3 00	1 00
Wheelbarrows.....	2 36	0 70

Here we have a statement of the duties which a farmer, occupying 100 acres of land, has to pay on his farm implements.

We see that not only has the farmer trouble in finding a market for his produce, but after he has found it, one quarter, or more, of the price is extorted from him by the customs officer, and if he undertakes to buy any of the ordinary articles required by him in his business, tribute is again levied upon him. Let us take an ordinary example: A farmer has a horse which he can sell to any buyer in the New England States for one hundred dollars. He starts on his way to deliver the horse and bring back with him a buggy wagon. At the boundry line he is met by a customs officer and required to hand over

... he is allowed to proceed further. He says his horse cost him \$100.00, but his price of \$100.00, which after paying the duty paid leaves him only \$70.00. With that \$70.00 he buys the buggy waggon he requires, and returns home. Unfortunately he is again met by a customs officer and has to hand over \$20.00 as duty on the waggon. This leaves him only \$41.00 for his horse. The farmer has spent a great deal of time and trouble in raising that horse. The horse has cost him many the hard days labor in providing hay and oats, and in breaking him and fitting him for market. After it is all over he finds that he was not the real owner of the horse, that others had really greater rights in him than he had himself. He becomes indignant, and gives loud vent to his feelings. His neighbor who is a manufacturer, and highly protected in all he does, hears the farmer complain, and immediately stops him, and says, "Sir, how dare you complain; you are not patriotic, you are disloyal, you are running down the country." The farmer is surprised, and ventures to say to the manufacturer: "I am not disloyal. My farm is a good farm. I am a good farmer, and I raised a good horse, but those vile customs officers took all I got for my horse. I have only \$41.00, when I ought to have \$100.00 I now understand how farmers cannot prosper. How can any man prosper and be forced to give up half of his property, for nothing to others? I can never prosper, and no farmer can prosper, while those customs officers are there. I go for sweeping them all away, and having unrestricted trade with my neighbors." The manufacturer has read what Sir John Macdonald said a few days ago at Toronto about such men as that farmer, and with great indignation answers him; "Sir, you are a vile traitor, and are talking treason, and the minister of Justice will attend to you. We will never allow those customs officers to be abolished. They enable us manufacturers to make millions out of you farmers every year, and we know what is good for ourselves." The farmer goes home feeling sad over the loss of his horse, but feeling he has discovered the true cause of his want of prosperity, and fully determined he will never cast another vote to keep those custom officers there any longer. The manufacturer also goes home, but he feels uneasy about the determined look in that farmers face, and makes up his mind to send \$500.00 to the Conservative committee as his subscription to the election fund to make sure those customs officers will not be driven away by the farmers' vote.

INCREASED BURDENS OF TAXATION UNDER PROTECTION.

Let us examine the questions whether our taxation has been increased during the last ten years—how much more we pay annually, how much more we have paid in all, and whether this increase has been applied to lessen our public debt, or whether that debt has also increased.

It is well known that our revenue is derived from two main sources, customs duties, and excise duties, both of these are paid by the people of the Government, and constitute a taxation equal to the sum of both. That means, The following figures show the enormous increase in taxation:—

Sum raised by this means of taxation for 1899.....	\$30,613,532
Sum raised by same means of taxation for 1879.....	18,476,615
Excess of 1889 over 1879.....	\$12,136,999
Deduct deficit for 1879.....	1,936,999
Actual increase of taxation over 1879.....	\$10,199,910

In other words the people of this country paid in the one year of 1889 over ten millions more in the way of taxation than they did ten years before. This it will be remembered is the increase for one year only. Let us see what the increase was for the ten years since 1879, compared with the ten preceding years from 1869 to 1879:—

From 1879 to 1889, the total taxation was.....	\$204,731,298
From 1869 to 1879, the total taxation was.....	128,269,884
Increase during the last ten years.....	\$ 76,461,414

Is it not possible that one of the reasons why the farmer is not as prosperous as he was ten years ago is that the enormous sum of over seventy-six million of dollars additional has been taken out of the pockets of the people by way of taxation during the last ten years.

WHAT HAS BECOME OF THE MONEY?

In the face of these alarming figures the people of this country are fairly justified in asking what has been done with this enormous sum of money. Has it been used in paying off our debt? Has our debt decreased? Let us see:—

Net debt in 1889.....	\$237,530,041
Net debt in 1879.....	142,990,187
Increase in debt for last ten years.....	\$ 94,537,854

We therefore see that this enormous increase in our taxation, amounting to over 76 million of dollars in ten years, has not been applied to the payment of the public debt. That debt has not decreased, but on the contrary has increased over 94 million of dollars. There evidently is something wrong.

Increase of expenditure in the last ten years.....\$12,372,000

Here again we believe the farmers of the country may find one of the reasons why they are not so prosperous as they were ten years ago.

Not only have these enormous sums been taken from the pockets of the people of this Dominion, but they have been taken in such a way as to discriminate against the farmer and the poor man.

The luxuries of life should bear the burdens of taxation, but, under the present system, the necessaries of life are made to bear it.

During last year our farmers exported to the United States

17,277 horses and paid as duty.....	\$ 422,756
9,984,501 bushels of barley and paid as duty.....	993,450
308,583 sheep and paid as duty.....	168,425
82,308 tons of hay and paid as duty.....	164,616
717,666 bushels of potatoes and paid as duty.....	107,650

Now turn to the duty on what has been bought.

During the last three years there has been paid as

duty on Iron.....	\$7,751,438
Last year the duty on printed cotton was.....	540,308
On sugar there was paid as duty no less a sum than.....	3,675,724
On woolen goods we paid as duty.....	2,963,937

Who pays the duty ?

It is contended by some that the consumer in all cases pays the duty, and consequently the Canadian farmer need not be perturbed, and can remain unmoved while the Yankee goes on taxing himself. If the consumer pays the duty the McKinley Bill doesn't matter to the Canadian farmer, and the consumer can "tuck it on" to his own satisfaction. Let us look into the question. Last year the United States took from Canada the product of the mines to the value of \$3,752,000, while her own mine products were \$542,284,000; would a duty on \$1 worth raise the price of \$150 worth? From Canada's fisheries \$2,839,000 worth was sent to the United States, and that country had \$42,538,000 worth of her own; would the duty on two millions raise the value 42 millions? The following figures show the relative:

	1870	1871	1872
Wheat.....	211,043,000	227,723,000	1-100
Russia.....	12,277	12,171,000	1-100
Horned cattle.....	37,360	49,235,000	1-100
Sheep.....	307,775	43,544,000	1-100
Eggs.....	14,011,000	less than 8 per head.	
Wool.....	1,011,000	285,000,000	1-100
Barley.....	2,984,000	60,000,000	1-100
Hay.....	82,308	4,786,000	1-100
Malt.....	131,000	18,273,000	1-100
Potatoes.....	717,000	168,051,000	1-100

How absurd to say that the duty on such a small proportion will increase the price. The McKinley Bill will do United States farmers no good and the Canadian farmer great harm. There is such an immense production of these articles in the United States, that the quantities sent in by Canadians do not swell the volume of supply to any extent as to affect the prices; and there is this further fact to be borne in mind that the amount, I have mentioned here is already embraced in the volume of supply in the United States, because the goods have been sent there notwithstanding the duty. I conclude therefore, that if the duty were off, the supply being no greater, the demand remaining the same, the prices would remain almost stationary. Thus nearly the whole of the duty would go into the pockets of the Canadian exporter, who has to find a market for these articles in the United States.

Not only have the taxes levied upon the people been enormous, but they have been so adjusted as to bear unduly upon the farming community. One is naturally driven to ask why this enormous taxation, why this discrimination against a particular class. The answer is

PROTECTION HAS DONE IT.

It is well known that when Sir John Macdonald returned to power in 1878, a new commercial policy, the policy of protection was inaugurated. Among the many blessings that were promised to the people by the promoters of protection were the following:

1. The establishment of manufacturers over our country, which would send out a large quantity of manufactured articles to the different countries in the world, and bring home the price of the goods sold as so much increase to our wealth.
2. The establishment of a home market for our farmers.
3. As a means of developing our natural resources.

4. As a means of increasing our population, and filling up our great North West with people.

Let us now, after having giving protection a fair trial, examine the results of protection and see whether it has accomplished the promised results. We will pursue our examination in the order above mentioned.

We will examine the effect of protection upon manufactories, when the manufactured products are sold outside of the country, in competition with the products of other countries and particularly the manufactured products of England, a country where the system of protection does not prevail; and then we will examine its effects when the manufactured goods are sold within the country.

It may be laid down as a proposition capable of absolute proof that no manufacturer producing goods in a country where protection prevails, can compete in the markets of the world with a manufacturer producing goods in a country where protection does not prevail. Protection is an absolute injury to any manufacturer who wishes to sell his goods outside of his own country. In proof of this we will take an example, the principles governing which will apply generally. Suppose that a company is starting business in South America, and require some complicated piece of machinery which is to-day manufactured and made in both England and the United States. A manufacturer in England where there is no protection, and a manufacturer in the United States where there is heavy protection, undertake to compete with each other for furnishing that piece of machinery. The company in South America does not care from which of them it buys, provided the quality and the price of the piece of machinery be equal. The piece of machinery is to be made of different materials, and the first thing the English and the American manufacturer have to do is to get the materials. They start together to the different markets of the world, where the materials are found, and both buy as cheap as they can the same kind of articles for the same price. Each returns to his home with the materials he has bought. So far each is on the same footing. The American manufacturer finds, however, when he reaches his own country, that there is a Customs officer who compels him to pay, on the material he has brought, duty of from 25 to 50 per cent, say an average of 30 per cent. When he has got his materials in his shop ready to commence manufacturing they have cost him 30 per cent. more than the materials of the English manufacturer. The American then hires his workmen and finds that every thing the workman wears or eats or uses is protected and that as a consequence the cost of living is much higher than the cost of living of the English workman, and the American manufacturer has, as a consequence, to pay his workman much higher wages than the English manufacturer. Then again the whole system of machinery, the tools and everything the American manufacturer uses have been protected, as

is called, and has cost the American much more than the Englishman. Finally each has completed his piece of machinery and sent it to South America to offer it for sale. The American's piece of machinery is equally good as that of the English manufacturer, but unfortunately for the poor American, his goods have cost him at least thirty-five per cent. more than the goods of the Englishman, and this increased cost has been added solely on account of the blessed protection he has been enjoying. The manager of the establishment in South America examines the two articles, and finds them equally good. He finds, however, that as the article manufactured by the American has cost him 35 per cent. more than the article manufactured by the Englishman, the latter can sell his article 35 per cent. cheaper. The result is, the Englishman sells his article, while the American is compelled to take his home. The American therefore has failed to sell his article, has failed in his competition with the Englishman, simply because the American was living under a system of protection and the Englishman was not. Protection has protected the wrong way, it has protected the Englishman against the American, and has destroyed the chances of the American in his competition against the Englishman. The same principles will apply to almost any kind of manufactured goods. The very nature of protection is to increase the price, and that increase in the price renders it simply impossible for a country where protection prevails to compete with a country where protection does not prevail. We find this borne out by actual experience of countries where these different systems prevail. Neither the new world of the United States, with all her vast wealth, and natural resources, nor old countries like France and Germany, can for a moment compete with England in the markets of the world. They are left so far behind that they are simply nowhere. How has poor Canada fared in the markets of the world with her manufactured articles. We blush to mention it. The Exports of Canada last year amounted to \$80,965,000. Of this, manufactured articles amounted to \$4,501,000. Canada's other exports exceeded her manufactories by \$72,464,000. Her agricultural products and animals were \$36,000,000. In other words the farm produce and animals which we exported were about 33 millions of dollars more than the exported products of our manufactories. We have spent millions protecting those manufactories, we have founded and caressed them, we have impoverished the whole farming community for them, and yet see what a poor miserable spectacle they present. We can never establish manufactories in our country that will become broad and substantial, selling their products in the markets of the world, and bringing home the price to enrich our own country, so long as the price of nearly every article the manufacturer uses has an artificial increase given it by so called protection.

The effect of protection upon the manufacturer and the consumer in our own country.

...manufactured articles, and to charge a higher price for his own... within a limited boundary, make enormous fortunes. But how... makes it? He makes it out of the people of his own country. He... not add anything to the wealth of the country, he simply displac... it takes it out of the pockets of his neighbors and puts it in his own... example can be better than that of our own country. Our fish... men have not only supplied our own wants, but by their labor have... taken over four million dollars worth of their fish and sold them in... the markets of the world, and brought us home that sum to enrich... our country.

Our lumbermen have done the same to the extent of over \$21,000,000.
 Our farmer to the extent of over 36,000,000.
 Our miners to the extent of over 4,000,000.
 And our poor infant industries, our manufacturers, only.. 4,500,000.

But although our farmers by their labor take 36 million of dollars worth of their products into the markets of the world, and bring home the money for it they are not allowed to keep it, or to use it so as to get a fair value for it. If they did they would be rich to-day in place of being poor. The moment the farmers, the lumbermen, the miners and fishermen, bring the money home for their produce the manufacturer takes it from them and puts it in his pocket. While they are compelled to go into the markets of the world and sell wherever they can find a buyer, the manufacturer, under the blessed system of protection, is allowed to stay at home, and charge them what he pleases for his manufactured articles. The result is that at the end of the year, the farmer who by his labor brought 36 millions of dollars into our country has scarcely anything left, while the manufacturer, who has brought scarcely anything into the country, finds himself in a few years a millionaire. This is not justice, and it is not for the good of our country. There is only one name for it, it is legalized robbery.

Protection then will not allow a manufacturer to prosper abroad, nor any one else to prosper at home.

HOME MARKET.

If there was one argument more than another that, in the past, has induced the farming community to give any portion of its support to those who favored Protection, it was the inducement held out that it would give a home market to the farmer for his produce. There is no better teacher than experience, and experience has taught that this promise was a delusion. The farmers were told that Protection would establish manufactories; that manufactories would build up for us large cities and towns in our midst; that these cities and towns would

There is no need to ask the farmers of this country how they have solved it to their sorrow. There is not a farmer in this country who does not know that he has no sufficient home market for his produce. The very fact that last year the export of wheat produce amounted to no less than \$6 millions of dollars worth, nearly one-third of the entire exports of the Dominion, is a sufficient answer to that pretension. If we had a market at home, why should we send our produce abroad? We have no home market, and are simply compelled to send this produce abroad. The least reflexion must tell any sensible person, that it is utterly impossible for protection to give us a home market of any very appreciable value. In the first place Protection has not given us all the manufactories we have, far from it. But Protection has done this for us. It has, by increasing the cost of material to the manufacturer rendered it impossible for him to manufacture for abroad. This we have conclusively shown. Our manufacturers can simply manufacture for ourselves. The extent of our manufactories is limited by the wants of our own population. With all the improvements of modern machinery, and the skill with which the forces of nature are applied to propel machinery, it requires but a small proportion of our population to manufacture for the wants of the people of this Dominion. The number so required is wholly insufficient to consume the vast surplus of the agricultural products of our country. If we had a poor barren country, or if we had a small country like Belgium, and the surplus of our agricultural produce small, such a thing might be thought of. But to make such pretensions to the possessor of half of the North American continent, containing millions of the richest and finest land in the world, in an age when the most improved farming implements are in common use, is simply to attempt to impose on the credulity of the farmers of this country.

THE TRUE POLICY FOR THE CANADIAN FARMER.

We have seen how the English manufacturer has beaten the American manufacturer and the French manufacturer, and the manufacturer of every country in the world, by the very simple plan of being able to sell a good article at the cheapest price. This after all is the principle of trade which regulate every branch of business in every country in the world. The men or the nation who can furnish the best article at the cheapest price command for that article the markets of the world. The agricultural resources of this country are simply enormous. Our wheat fields are sufficient to supply almost half the population of the earth. There is simply no limit to the capacity of our country to furnish agricultural produce to the food consumers of the world. We are not without, however, competitors. The great

are all our farmers' competitors. We are to supply the markets of the food-consuming portions of the world, and we are to be able to furnish these markets with the produce of our farms. One cent on the bushel in the price may drive them out of those markets. What then is the duty of the hour? It is to enable the farmer to utilise our enormous agricultural resources, and to place the produce thereof in the markets of the world at the very lowest possible cost.

HOW CAN THIS BE DONE.

Simply, as the English manufacturer has done, by enabling our farmer to purchase his sugar, and every article of food he has to buy, to purchase his clothing of every kind, to purchase his farming implements of every kind, at the lowest possible price. Then he will not fear competition with the world. Then he will command the markets of the food-consuming nations of the world. Then will our farmers be what the English manufacturers now are, producers who fear no competitors in the world. Then will our vast North West be filled with a population tilling that vast expanse of inexhaustible soil, and becoming the richest farming community known to any age.

A CHANGE MUST TAKE PLACE.

This state of prosperity cannot be brought about, so long as the present state of affairs exist. So long as every article of clothing our farmers wear, so long as every pound of sugar and other article of food which he buys, so long as every farming implement he uses is burdened with the present taxation, is subject to the present tariff, just so long will our farming industries languish and our farmers find want pressing at their door.

PROTECTION DOES NOT BRING UNALLOYED BLESSINGS EVEN TO THE MANUFACTURER.

Duty is imposed not only on the manufactured article, but on nearly all the material that enters into the manufactured article. The consumer has to pay more for the goods, but the manufacturer does not get the protection, owing to the system running all the way through and the duties imposed on raw material. Take for example agricultural implements, there is a duty on them of 35 per cent. That means an increased cost to the consumer, but the manufacturer does not get the benefit, because the duty he has to pay on the raw material reduces the protection he obtains. Every one knows the extent to which iron enters into the construction of farming implements. But we have already shown that in the last three years over seven millions of dollars have been paid as duty on iron.

It is well known that in 1886, the Government increased the duty on pig iron to an amount which has since that account was given at the time of the great increase in the price of iron from this increase. It was stated that the object in view was to bring about the increase of the production of pig iron, and the increase of iron in the Dominion. He believed there would be an increase of 100,000 miners and smiths, and that would give an additional market to the farmers, besides enabling us to produce all the iron required without importing any from abroad. He stated that there would have smelting furnaces at Kingston, Pembroke, Fort Hope, Owen Sound and all along the line to Vancouver, and he told us that our iron mountains would be honeycombed by miners and how the people would get rich in the development of this industry. What have we realised out of all these promises? He declared that the money was ready to be invested in these enterprises, and that nothing was wanting but the consent of Parliament and the sanction to the Bill by the Governor in order to have the best results of the National Policy realized. What has been the result? Have we produced any more pig iron during the three years since then than we did before? Here are the imports for these three years:—

1887	46,295 tons.
1888	48,973 "
1889	73,844 "

The following table shows the increase of duty paid by the consumers during these three years: on pig iron, which according to the promises of Sir Charles Tupper, we would produce at home and cease to import:

In 1887 imported 45,295 tons pig iron, duty paid \$	93,373.
" 1888 " 48,973	195,275.
" 1889 " 73,488	288,459.

The third year after that tariff went in force we paid a little less than \$200,000 more duty on the iron imported into this country than we did in 1887.

Since the tariff has been thus increased we have collected, in that way from the consumers of the Dominion, a total of \$7,751,433. This amount paid by the consumers of iron, of whom the manufacturers are the chief, increases the cost to them of their manufactured articles for which they make up by adding to the price of the article they sell to the consumer. The policy has wholly failed in the object which Sir Charles Tupper had in view when this increase was introduced but nevertheless the farmers have to pay the increased price of their tools, etc., etc.

THE COTTON INDUSTRY.

After the introduction of Protection, cotton mills sprang up over the Dominion, and many millions of dollars were invested in the business. In a couple of years the output of these mills was far in excess of the wants of the country. The cotton manufacturers could not sell their cotton in the Dominion because the markets were already gorged. They could not sell their cotton in other countries, because owing to the expense of manufacturing it under our system of protection they could not compete with the products of other countries. The result was the well known combine among all our cotton manufacturers, to keep up the price. They all entered into an arrangement to work under one management and divide the profits among them. This involved the shutting down of certain of the mills, at certain times, and turning the men working in the mills out of employment. A particular mill would be run for say six months and then close. The men would be discharged, and sent to seek employment elsewhere if they could find it. We can easily see the disastrous effect of this system. Take a particular time or village in which a Cotton Mill was at work for six months employing 200 men say. At the end of that time the mill closes, the men are discharged and sent home without anything. They are forced to leave the place, and as a result of this again every grocer, and every merchant in the place finds his trade deranged or perhaps ruined by this sudden departure of so many of his customers. To such an extent has this disaster overtaken our Cotton mills that the owners of the Grey Cotton mills, in despair, and almost with ruin staring them in the face, have all sold out to a syndicate at an average of about 25 cents on the dollar, involving an enormous loss to those who invested their money in the cotton industry, under the belief that a fortune awaited them under the blessings of the Protection.

FAILURE OF PROTECTION.

Protection then has proved a disastrous failure in nearly every particular. Hardly a single promise made for it, at its inception, has been realized. It has wholly failed to enable our manufacturers to take their goods into other countries, and compete in the markets of the world. On the contrary, it has prevented such a course being possible. It has wholly failed to furnish the farmer anything like a sufficient home market for his produce. It has not only failed to increase our population, but by increasing the cost of living in our country, has tended to retard the increase of population. Though millions have been spent in our efforts to promote the iron industry, it has most ignominiously failed. In place of aiding the cotton industry, it has brought ruin upon those who invested their capital in that business. Under the fair name of Protection over ten millions of dollars a year has been taken

of the pockets of the people in the way of taxation. During the ten years that increase has exceeded 70 millions.

Our once flourishing farming community, has been brought to a state of unheard of distress, almost of ruin. But why dwell longer on the ruin it has wrought. It is now practically admitted to be a failure by the very persons who gave it life and kept it in existence.

The sudden dissolution of Parliament has no other meaning than an admission that Protection is now found to be a failure, that it no longer meets the wants of the country, and that another trade policy must be adopted. If the dissolution does not mean that it has no meaning, Protection then has proved by actual experiment to be a failure, the Government admit it to be a failure, and the people are about to pronounce it a failure.

WHAT IS THE REMEDY FOR THE PRESENT STATE OF AFFAIRS?

The Liberal party come before the country with a policy clearly defined and easily understood.

The policy of Unrestricted Reciprocity.

FIRST REASON IN SUPPORT OF IT.

We have tried Reciprocity before and found it a Good Thing.

Proof of the profit that would result may be found in the results that attended what was only a partial reciprocity in 1854. In that year the exports from the Provinces, afterwards confederated, amounted to \$10,473,000. Next year they jumped to \$19,368,000, and in 1866, the closing year, \$39,950, was the total. Let us contrast this with the amount of exports to the United States in 1889, 23 years after, which was only \$43,522,000. The increase of exports during the twelve years the Reciprocity Treaty was in operation was \$29,477,000, and during the 23 years after its abrogation only \$3,572,000. The annual increase in exports under reciprocity, if it had been maintained, would have given \$96,500,000 last year. This is not an extravagant estimate, as the population and wealth of the United States have grown three times greater. In twelve years the increase of exports was 280 per cent., and during the 23 years following only nine per cent.

When the treaty giving us reciprocity was abrogated we find Sir Alexander Galt, with all the authority that at that time attached to his name as Minister of Finance, speaking of it as follows, Mr. Galt was a good conservative, yet he did not speak of that treaty as treason. He spoke of it as follows:

"* * * If we require to find an example of the benefits of free commercial intercourse, we need not look beyond the effects that have followed from the working of the Reciprocity Treaty with the United

In one short year from the time when that treaty was signed our trade in the natural productions of the two countries swelled from less than \$2,000,000 to upwards of \$10,000,000 per annum, and now, when we are threatened with an interruption of that trade when we have reason to fear that the action of the United States will prove hostile to the continuance of free commercial relations with this country, when we know that the consideration of this question is not grounded on just views of the material advantages resulting to each country, but that the irritation connected with political events exercises a predominant influence over the minds of American statesmen, it is the duty of the House to provide, if possible, other outlets for our productions."

SECOND REASON FOR RECIPROCITY.

The enormous trade that we do now with the United States, compared with our trade with other countries, shows the advantages to be derived from removing all restrictions from that trade. It is the supremest folly for any man, whatever his position may be, to stand before a Canadian audience and tell them that the loss of the United States market is a trifling matter. The man who will tell you in the teeth of such facts as will be laid before you, that it is a small and trifling matter, an insignificant matter, whether the people of Canada are shut off from intercourse with the people of the United States, is either trifling with his audience or most fearfully ignorant of the facts that ought to be familiar to every man of business, whatever his politics may be, from one end of Canada to the other. Here are the last trade and navigation return compiled by authority of the present Government and by them laid before parliament. Let us turn to that part of the volume which shows what we sell to other countries all the world over. We find that the total amount of sales of all kinds of produce made by the people of Canada last year was \$80,000,000; and find, on looking further, that of that sum about \$39,500,000 worth were purchased by the United States; that the United States are by many millions of dollars our largest customer; that in point of fact, we have but two customers, the people of the United States and the people of Great Britain and her colonies, and that the goods purchased from us by the people of the United States are more by some millions than all the goods purchased from us by Great Britain and all our sister colonies. Nor is that all. That one fact of itself demonstrates beyond all question the utter folly and absurdity of saying that our trade with the United States is a matter of trifling importance to us. But if we look a little further, if we proceed to examine how this matter affects the details of trade of individual Provinces, we shall be able to show that even if this trade be not of supreme importance to the Province of Ontario, even if it be not of supreme importance to

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SHUT OUR EYES TO THE FACTS

which these papers disclose to us. Let us turn to the Province of British Columbia. We find the Province exported of her own produce \$4,263,000 worth. To whom did British Columbia sell these goods? She sold \$2,782,000 worth to the States. In other words, in the case of British Columbia, fully two-thirds of all she had to sell outside found a market in the United States. Turn to the little Province of Prince Edward Island. We find she sold to the whole world \$946,000 worth, and of that \$685,000 worth, or nearly three-fourths went to the United States. Turn to the Province of New Brunswick. We find that there, out of \$5,000,000 worth, \$2,000,000 worth were sold to the United States; that with the solitary exception of the produce of the forest, which was largely purchased by Great Britain, the United States seems to be almost her sole customer for everything she has to sell. And so it goes on. In Nova Scotia we find the United States again the largest Customer. In the Province of Quebec, though apparently Great Britain is the largest customer, the vast proportion of what is credited to Quebec really belongs to Ontario, and if you deduct possibly a certain amount of goods coming from the Eastern Townships, you will find almost every single article, whether of horses, or cattle, or hay, or poultry, or any other produced by the people of Quebec, is purchased by the people of the United States. It must be a matter of common notoriety that for many important articles produced by the Province of Ontario there is literally no market to be found except the United States. How can any rational human being, much less any man speaking under a sense of responsibility, presume to tell the people of Canada that the loss, or possible loss, of one-half of our commerce with that country is a matter with which we need not concern ourselves. The trade which is so lightly talked about is

THE BEST TRADE WE HAVE.

We understand the American market; we require no middlemen in doing business there; buyer and seller are brought into the closest possible juxtaposition. You might almost conduct a trade by telephone, at any rate you can by telegraph, with any American city within a hundred miles of our border. And remember this enormous trade—enormous to us in proportion to our total trade—has sprung up in the teeth of two absurdly hostile tariffs, one absurd tariff on our part to keep American Goods out of Canada, and another absurd tariff on the part of the Americans to keep Canadian goods out.

to measure or estimate the magnitude of the trade which develop between the United States and Canada. As it is the largest worth all the rest of the world to you, according to our statistics. To-day, in spite of these two tariffs, erected as a barrier, we absolutely do as much business with the United States as all the rest of the world put together. We have already called your attention to the total volume of exports to the United States, but in order to explain this matter more fully we will give you in detail how these figures come out in the several

GREAT DIVISIONS OF OUR INDUSTRY.

Whereas we sold to the whole world \$4,419,000 worth of the products of the mine, the United States in that respect were not merely our largest customer, but almost our sole customer. They take \$3,753,000 out of \$4,419,000 worth. When we turn to the fisheries of which you have heard so much, there again the United States is by far our largest customer. They take two and one-half times as much as Great Britain takes, two and one-half times as much as the British West Indies take. Out of \$7,000,000 worth they take \$2,839,000 worth. We come to another point which may interest you still more, the great lumber interest of this country. We sold to all the world \$23,000,000 worth of lumber last year. Of that the United States alone took \$11,000,000 worth, very nearly one-half, and almost \$1,000,000 worth more than Great Britain took. Turn to "animals and their products." There we find, though the United States' imports are enormously under-estimated, as is well known to all persons conversant with the trade returns, that out of \$26,000,000 worth the United States took probably \$10,000,000 worth, because to the \$7,000,000 which you will find in the record you may add the greater part of the \$3,000,000 which is admittedly "short return" to the United States. We find another thing that is significant. If you strike out the single article cheese, which finds a market in England alone, the United States takes more from us in this line than all the rest of the world put together. Turn to our agricultural products—and this is worthy of your notice, and we find that out of \$13,414,000 worth the States take \$9,125,000, nearly three-quarters of the whole agricultural products, that is of all the products of the soil (not including animals or their produce), exported from the whole Dominion of Canada. We find that for your manufactures, again, they are your best customer. Out of \$4,400,000 they took \$1,322,000. Out of \$783,000 worth of miscellaneous articles they took \$727,000 worth. So that, with the exception of

THE SOLITARY ARTICLE OF CHEESE,

the United States are at this present moment by far the largest

They take far more than England takes from our goods and our goods find their entrance into England and are taxed by these ultra-loyal gentlemen 35 per cent on average, we cannot in reason complain that England takes so much more than we do, not only do they take these millions more than England, but they take 600 per cent more than all the rest of the world, England excepted.

The following figures show in a condensed manner the extent of our trade with the United States.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF EXPORTS.

	Great Britain.	United States.
Mines.....	\$ 422,000	\$3,753,000
Fisheries.....	1,249,000	2,559,000
Forest.....	10,197,000	11,043,000
Agricultural.....	3,674,000	9,125,000
Manufactures.....	1,679,000	1,622,000
Miscellaneous.....	53,000	727,000
Animals and product.....	16,237,000	7,137,000

The question may be put in another light showing the comparative Dominion exports last year of certain important products:—

	Great Britain.	United States.
Horses.....	\$26,975	\$2,113,782
Sheep.....	303,009	918,334
Poultry.....	1,127	110,793
Eggs.....	18	2,156,725
Hides.....	7,070	454,105
Wool.....	470	216,918
Flax.....	.....	121,807
Barley.....	3,838	6,454,008
Beans.....	.....	405,534
Hay.....	84,610	822,381
Malt.....	.....	105,183
Potatoes.....	245	195,576
Vegetables.....	514	52,666
Total.....	\$427,876	\$14,124,801

These figures show that Canada has sold to the United States 34 times as much of these articles as to Great Britain. And this is the

There will be no loss to you, a trade that does not matter and can be easily replaced. Such talk is the greatest humbug. The market of the United States is a market that

SHOULD BE LOOKED AFTER ;

the market that takes the great bulk of Canada's trade is a market that Canada cannot spare. Indeed the widest facilities should be arranged for its continuance and still further enlargement. The preservation of this market is of the greatest importance. It is absurd to talk of trade with those other countries. What did they take from Canada last year :—

South America.....	\$25,022
West Indies	162,667
China.....	703
Japan.....	1,039
Mexico.....	Nothing
Spain.....	Nothing

By such markets as those it is said the great trade of the United States can be replaced. The fact is Canada cannot place her immense trade with her natural markets in markets geographically unnatural. Those other countries taking such a paltry sum would not afford a market for a good Ontario township, and by what hocus-pocus of legerdemain are they going to take all the millions of exports!

THIRD REASON.

Reciprocity would give us a real city home market that cannot be furnished otherwise. One of the great principles laid down for the National Policy was, that it was essential to the prosperity of the farmers, and to the well-being of the country, that we should have a home market. A home market is a grand thing. Toronto has grown in wealth and population and mouths have to be fed. No one will deny that it is a desirable thing to have a home market, but we are getting it by slow progress. Adopt reciprocal trade relations with the United States, and see what an immense home market you will have for the farmer. Within one day's ride, you have gathered together in cities,—not to be built, but already peopled with a population greater than the entire population of the Dominion of Canada. You have these States for a home market, which are already inhabited with immense populations. They need every product the Canadian farmer has to sell. There is your home market. The Protectionists claim that the home market is the best thing the farmer can have; but when a proposition is made looking towards the securing of a home market

are told that it would be a ruinous thing to our farmers to open them this market, and that the Government continue in a policy that will tend to keep these markets more closely shut and barred against us than they have been heretofore. Now, it has been said that the United States grow more of natural products than they require; and that, therefore, that is not a market for us, but the face of it, is very easily to be seen and very easily to be explained. What is the result? Why, take the States that lie contiguous to Ontario, to Quebec, to Nova Scotia, to New Brunswick, to Prince Edward Island—take these States, comprising the New England States and the great States of New York and New Jersey, and you will find that at the last census they had over 10,000,000 people in them. Why these States do not grow enough wheat to bread themselves. They only grow ten million bushels of wheat, when it would take fifty million bushels to feed them. There is a market right at your very door for forty million bushels of wheat. You could send it to them better than their wheat producing fields, in far away Kansas and Nebraska, if there were free commercial intercourse between us. If we had that free intercourse, Canada would be the market from which these States would draw the supply of wheat, for the ten million barrels of flour they need per annum. Take the New England States, in which, on the testimony of the Ministry, the farms are forsaken, and where they are not growing what is needed for consumption;—there you have immense cities like Boston, Lowell; Boston, with a population of over half a million. What are these immense cities requiring? They require all the commodities which we produce in this country. Potatoes are not grown in the New England States, or in New York, to any quantity like what they need for consumption; while we grow them in abundance, and our market for potatoes is in the United States.

ANSWER TO OBJECTIONS AGAINST UNRESTRICTED RECIPROCIETY.

The First Objection.

made against the proposal for Unrestricted Reciprocity is that we cannot get it. It is said the United States will not give it to us. The following resolution moved by Mr. Hitt and passed by the United States House of Representatives, a complete answer to this objection.

“Resolved, That whenever it shall be duly certified to the President of the United States that the Government of the Dominion of Canada has declared a desire to enter into such commercial arrangements with the United States as will result in the complete removal of all duties upon trade between Canada and the United States, he shall appoint three commissioners to meet those who may be designated to represent

the Government of Canada to consider the best method of securing the best relations between Canada and the United States, and to ascertain on what terms greater freedom of intercourse between the two countries can best be secured, and said commissioners shall report to the President, who shall lay the report before Congress."

In addition to this Mr. Blain, whose influence is paramount to-day in the United States, has clearly stated that he is willing to enter into negotiations with Canada, for freer trade relations, on the basis of Unrestricted Reciprocity.

But if this is an objection to the policy of Unrestricted Reciprocity, what is the position of Sir John Macdonald? He says he has dissolved Parliament simply because he wishes to negotiate with the United States a certain kind of limited, restricted reciprocity, confined to a few articles and products. The people of the United States have not been slow to give him an answer. Mr. Blain over his signature has plainly told Sir John that the people of the United States will have nothing to do with Sir John's limited reciprocity, or any kind of reciprocity except Unrestricted Reciprocity. This objection is then settled. The United States have declared that they will accept the kind of reciprocity proposed by Mr. Laurier, and that they will have nothing to do with that proposed by Sir John.

The Second Objection.

is that reciprocity with the United States would be disloyalty, in fact treason.

This objection is really too childish to require much discussion.

In the first place we have once had reciprocity with the United States, and Sir John Macdonald himself approved of it. Was anyone guilty of treason then? In the second place, when the National Policy so called was advocated by Sir John and his followers, the very object then stated to be had in view was to obtain Reciprocity. The words of Sir John, that he would have reciprocity in trade or reciprocity in tariff are familiar to every one. Was there any treason in that? In the third place we do now trade with the United States more than with any country in the world. Are all those engaged in that trade traitors? Then there there must be a great many good Conservatives who are traitors. They now trade under two hostile tariffs, pay heavy duties while trading, and as a consequence remain poor. If we get reciprocity these same men will simply go on trading, will pay no taxation or duties, for there will be none to pay, and get rich.

Is it loyalty to trade and remain poor? And is it treason to trade and get rich? The Jew in Russia is called a traitor, because he gets rich, but thank God in no part of the British Empire has man ever heard of such monstrous doctrine. What does England herself say about this extension of our trade? Why, there is not an English statesman that has not time and again declared that it was the right

On the contrary she receives free of duty every article that the United States can sell to her, and would be glad to send her products free to the United States. England desires, and the Liberal Party of this country desires to build up on this northern part of the American continent a great and powerful and prosperous country, loyal to the flag of England, and loyal to ourselves. A country large in population and rich in wealth, a country that can stand with men and with money, at the right hand of England, in her hour or trial, if that hour should ever come, and march on with her in the path of progress and liberty.

It is said this policy would discriminate against England. Who makes this charge? The individuals and the party who in 1849 signed the manifesto for annexation to the United States; the very same leaders who in 1876, when it was pointed out that policy of protection inflicted duties on the products of England; they answered if that will endanger British connection so much the worse for British connection: the same government which has imposed an average of 22 per cent. on the goods imported into this country from our mother land while they have allowed American goods to come in with an average of 15 per cent: the government who in 1878 found the volume of trade between this country and the United States, and this country and Great Britain 73 millions each, has by its policy failed to increase the volume of trade with the mother country which still is 73 millions while that with the United States has amounted up to nearly 89 millions. Be not deceived, gentlemen, that policy cannot be disloyal which increases the wealth, the prosperity and the happiness, the contentment, and the attachment of a British colony to the motherland.

Sir John Macdonald and his followers meet the demand of the farmers for unrestricted reciprocity with the question:

Where will the revenue come from?

We may very well answer this question by asking another: Where has it ever come from? Who ever has paid, and who ever will pay the costs of carrying on the government of the country, but the people? One would imagine from the manner in which the present administration discuss this point that they possessed some magic wand by waving which money would of itself flow into the public treasury. The people of Canada are no beggars. They do not expect that the Government of their country can be carried on for nothing, or that it ever has been or ever will be carried on for nothing. That is not the question to be decided. The question is, shall it be carried on as it now is, in such a way that enormous extravagance shall be encouraged, that vast and unnecessary sums of money will be taken out of the pockets of the people, and taken out in such a way as prevent trade with other countries, prevent us from having a market for our products, rendering the price of hay, of horses, of potatoes, of barley,

of sheep, of cattle so low that farm property in the near future, if the recent course is pursued, will be practically worthless. That is the question we invite these gentlemen to discuss.

From the calculations of our best financiers it is demonstrated that by the adoption of unrestricted reciprocity, we would have a loss of duty to the extent of about eight or nine millions of dollars? Do we want all the revenue that we are raising at this moment? First of all it must be remembered that if we thus lose eight millions of dollars we diminish the taxation which is paid by the people by that sum of eight millions of dollars. Now, do we require the whole of the great revenue now taken from the pockets of the people of the country? Could we not get along with eight millions of dollars less? It stands to common sense that we are raising too much revenue and that the Government of Canada is levying a large amount of unnecessary taxation.

EFFECTING SAVINGS.

Do you imagine that a prudent minister of finance like Sir Richard Cartwright could not take a pruning knife and cut out the excrescences now yielding enormous profits to the combines and monopolists of the country. Is it not possible to decrease the present enormous expenditure by prudence and economy to the extent of three millions of dollars, and make an amount equal to the sum which would be lost in duties if the policy of unrestricted reciprocity were adopted. In 1878 when Sir Richard Cartwright had been managing the finance of the country, we expended about twenty-four million dollars, and Sir Leonard Tilley declared that if he were entrusted with the finances of the country he could carry on the administration of affairs at an expenditure of twenty-two millions of dollars. The people took him at his word and gave him the position of Minister of Finance. What took place? The expenditure under the Conservative government went on increasing year by year until last year it amounted to thirty-eight millions of dollars. These Conservative financiers were shocked and horrified at the annual expenditure of twenty-four millions of dollars, but swallowed with gusto an annual expenditure of no less than thirty-eight millions of dollars. Look at that monster the Dominion Franchise Act.

EVERY REVISION OF THE FRANCHISE

under the Dominion Act costs from three to four hundred thousand dollars.

Some of the departments of the public services of Canada to-day are reeking over with extravagance and corruption. You have to-day overwhelming evidence that the department of public works—and if the evidence could only be obtained the same state of things exists in

other departments, is reeking with extravagance and corruption. I have to-day a gentleman in Quebec, Mr. Tarte, a Conservative, who through some lucky chance has been able to lay his hands upon correspondence of the deepest significance, and who is showing to the public that for years and years the department of public works has been in the hands of contractors, who have managed it to their profit with—if not at the present time the connivance, at least under the very eyes of the minister of public works. If you look at the public accounts you will find that in a very short space of time the commissioners of Quebec harbor have obtained no less than four millions of dollars from the Government to be expended in public works in the harbor. Works of that value are not to be seen in the harbor of Quebec, at least with naked eyes. But there is a significant explanation of the matter, and that explanation is that, out of these four millions of dollars, there has been a fund of corruption, and we have evidence at the present time of an expenditure to the extent of seven hundred thousand dollars which has passed out of the treasury of Canada into the hands of the political jobbers in the Province of Quebec. Do you not believe that with a prudent administration we could reduce all the unnecessary expenditure, and do you imagine that there would be any difficulty in balancing that expenditure with our revenue if we only had an honest and prudent administration at Ottawa.

The advantages of unrestricted reciprocity cannot for a moment be doubted, and every objection against it is easily met.

WHO ARE OPPOSED TO IT?

This policy is opposed by the very men one would expect to be opposed to it—the manufacturers who cannot live without having a chance to shut off all competition and the combines.

A meeting of these gentlemen was held in Montreal on the 10th of February to see how they could defeat this measure which the farmers so much desire. It is needless to say they determined to oppose unrestricted reciprocity, because it would no longer enable them to grow rich out of the farmers. Here is the resolution they came to:—

“Wherefore we resolve to give a united, strenuous and energetic opposition to this proposal and to every candidate for election who does not expressly disclaim it.”

You all know what is meant by “a united, strenuous opposition” on the part of these combines. It means that they will subscribe enormous sums of money to flood the country with, in order that unrestricted reciprocity may be defeated, and they enabled in the future to accumulate millions. Farmers, these men have combined against you with “united, strenuous and energetic” opposition. Be men, farmers, be free men. Show these men who have thus combined against you that you can combine with united, strenuous and energetic opposition—not

the opposition created by money, but the opposition of intelligent, honest and patriotic electors.

What is the policy of Sir John MacDonald on his appeal to the country in the present contest? It is utterly impossible for any man to say, Sir John changes his policy every day. Every member of his cabinet has a different policy. Some of them are for one thing, some for another, but there is no settled policy, no union in the cabinet, nothing clear and definite, everything vague and uncertain. Take the following declaration by the Tory party, and find out if you can, the policy involved in it. No man can find any policy involved in it, except the policy of humbug.

THE PROTECTION SIDE OF THE SHIELD.

Sir John MacDonald.—The policy we inaugurated in 1879, we shall stand by.

The Empire.—The old leader, the old policy, the old flag

Hon. Mr. Colby.—I say that free trade between Canada and the United States in all agricultural products would be the worst possible thing that could happen to the farmers of Canada.

Sir Adolphe Caron.—The issue is clear and well-defined this time. It is whether or not Canada will stand by the policy of 1878, the N.P.

THE RECIPROCITY SIDE OF THE SHIELD.

Proposals to U. S.—Renewal of the reciprocity treaty of 1854, with 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.

Sir Charles Tupper.—I would like to see the trade relations between Canada and the United States placed on the broadest and most friendly basis possible, and I know such a state of affairs would meet the approval of the Home Government.

Hon. Mr. Chapleau.—I am in favor of closer commercial relations with the United States, even to the extent of free trade, if necessary to the prosperity of the country.

The Gazette.—The widest possible measure of reciprocity consistent with our political independence.

Sir John Macdonald saw that the National Policy has proved a failure, that the people have found it out, that they are rising en masse against, and that inevitable ruin is upon him if he does not pretend to change his policy.

IT WAS ONLY A PRETENCE.

Sir John sent a dispatch to England with a view of having a commission appointed to arrange some kind of limited reciprocity. This dispatch has been published as a sop to humbug the farmers. That it

was only intended to humbug them is clear, for at a meeting at Toronto, at the Albany Club, since the date of that dispatch, he boldly says: "The policy we introduced in 1878 we are going to stand by." That of course settles any doubt. You cannot have the protection, and unrestricted reciprocity at the same time.

MR. COLBY OPPOSED TO RECIPROCITY IN NATURAL PRODUCTS.

No later than the last session Mr. Colby, a cabinet minister, speaking for the government as well as himself, was asked the question following by Mr. Mills.

"That the hon. gentleman is opposed to free trade, in natural products?"

Mr. Colby answered "Most decidedly. I say that free trade between Canada and the United States in all agricultural products, would be the worst probable thing that could happen to the farmers at the present time.

No member of the Government made any attempt to repudiate or deny the statement by Mr. Colby of the policy of the Government.

Farmers of Canada, this is the real policy of the Government however they may try to change or vary it.

Is it your policy? Are you going to vote for that policy? What can you think of a minister that has deliberately entered upon that course, in view of the records of our trade and commerce with the nations of the world? Where is the man who is possessed of ordinary business sense, who desires his best customer to be cut off his list? Where is the man with the least degree of common sense in commercial life who desires to have his customer estranged from him and his trade cut off? Yet the hon. gentleman declares that to have free intercourse with the United States in trade would be injurious, the worst thing that could happen to our farmers and to others. Out of \$4,417,170 that we exported as the produce of the mine, the hon. gentleman asks that the country which takes \$3,753,351 worth of it, should be cut off, and that we should not send any there at all. Of the total of our fishery products of \$7,000,000 in round numbers, nearly three millions go to the United States, and the hon. gentleman proposes that we shall cut them off as our customers, that we will have no trade with them. What do you think of a minister of finance and a government that have entered on a policy like that? What think you of a Government that have declared their belief that as regards the products of the forests, which amount to \$23,000,000, in round numbers, of which the United States take \$11,000,000, charging a duty of \$2.00 per thousand, these products should not enter that market free, and it would be the worst thing that could happen if the market were free? What think you of a Government that as regards animals and their products, of which we export to the value of \$23,894,000, of which the

...the value of \$1,000,000, imposing a heavy duty on them, declare that it would be inadvisable if these animals and produce were admitted free into the adjoining Republic? What do you think of a Government announcing a policy and declaring it on the floor of Parliament, that as regards agricultural products, of which we export to the value of \$13,000,000, of which \$9,000,000 worth go to the United States, that the removal of these duties would be injurious to Canada and fatal to our farmers?

Farmers of Canada, the most important electoral contest that our country has seen, since Confederation, is upon us. Two policies clear and distinct are placed before you—the policy of Protection and the policy of Unrestricted Reciprocity. You must select one or the other. Which will it be? You have had Protection and what has it brought you? Has it brought you prosperity? Has it increased the value of your farms? Has it brought you new markets, or has it increased the price of your products? There is no answer but one to all these questions? No, emphatically no. The farmer has to mourn over the days of the past, of prosperity of other years. He looks back over the last ten years and sees the taxation of his country increased by ten millions per annum, the public debt increased by an enormous extent, his farm shrunk one-third in value, his barns filled with hay and farm produce for which he has no market, while every article that he purchases, whether to eat, to wear, or to use on his farm is increased in price.

The policy of Unrestricted Reciprocity is now offered to you. If you adopt it, it will open to you the markets of one of the most powerful, the most populous, and the most wealthy nation in the world. Your horses without limit, and without taxation can be sent to the markets offered by the great cities of the New England states. There too your eggs, your potatoes, your barley, your sheep, and nearly all the various kinds of farm produce can be sent in the same way, without limit and without duty. Under this policy our country will grow in wealth and population, adding strength to the British Empire, and power to our own great Dominion. You are told that the Liberal party run down our country, when they but point out the wounds inflicted on the prosperity of our country by a false policy. It was the Liberal party of old England that in the past has stood up for their liberty, the glory and the honor of that country, and has made of it a nation the most prosperous in peace, and the most powerful in war that the world has ever seen. Under the strength of the protection and the glory of the British flag, let us all unite irrespective of old and worn out party cries, to adopt such a policy as will make us populous and prosperous, and powerful in war, as a loyal colony of old England, to strike with her in the hour of battle, against any enemy that may dare to oppose her in her march along the path of prosperity and liberty.

