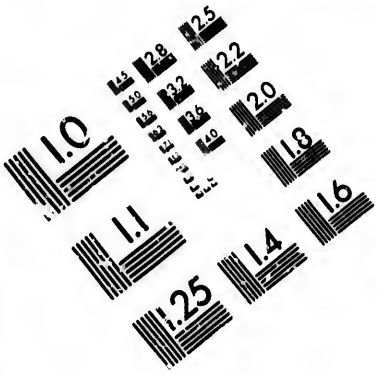

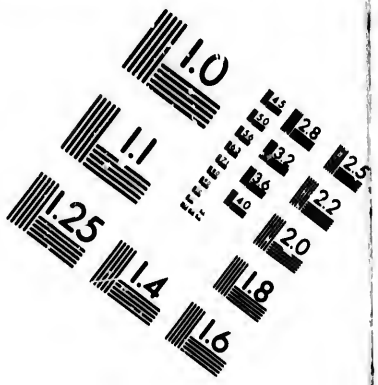

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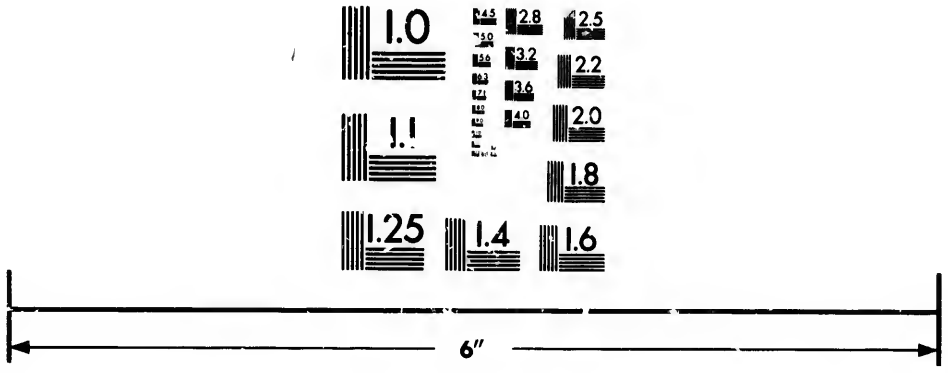

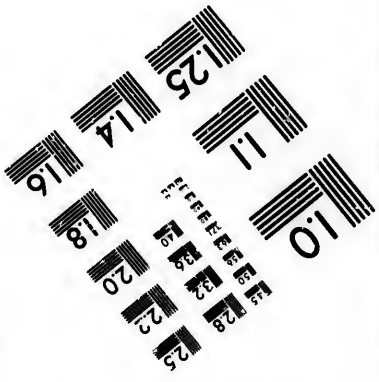

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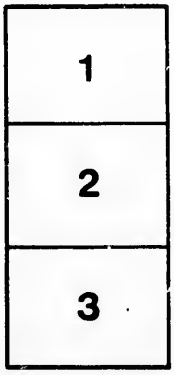

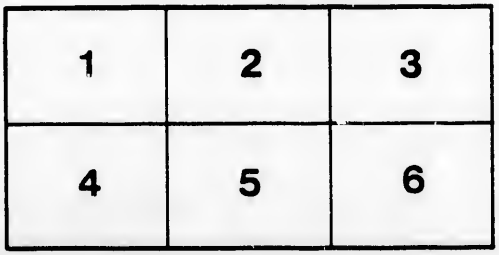

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A FEW FACTS

FROM THE

OFFICIAL RECORDS

MOWAT TO HIS FRIEND MERCIER.

Penetanguishene, Ont., Oct. 16, 1886.

To the Hon. H. Mercier, M.P.P., Montreal:

Have just received here *the joyful news* of your great triumph. I congratulate you and all our friends on your important victory; may your premiership be a long one and full of advantage to your Province and the Dominion, and of honor to yourself.

O. MOWAT,
Prime Minister of Ontario.

A Few Facts from the Official Records.

REFUSING TO MAKE THE LAW CLEAR.

The Mowat Government and followers have refused to make clear, definite and unmistakeable the fact that every Roman Catholic ratepayer is *prima facie* a supporter of public schools; they have declined to declare unequivocally—so that there can be no dispute about it—that Roman Catholics must be free to make a choice what school they will send their children to; that a muddled law shall not curtail their freedom or bind them against their will.

Mr. Meredith formulated the Opposition programme which was moved in the Legislature March 28th, and embodied in the following bill:

"Whereas every ratepayer ought to be by law *prima facie* a public school supporter, and no one should be rated as a Roman Catholic separate school supporter unless he by his own voluntary act declares his intention to be a supporter of separate schools in accordance with the provisions of the law;

"Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the province of Ontario, enacts as follows:

"1. Notwithstanding the provisions of any Act or law to the contrary, no person otherwise liable for public school rates shall be exempt from the payment thereof or be liable for the payment of rates in support of a Roman Catholic separate school unless he shall have given the notice provided for by section 40 of the Separate Schools Act.

"2. It shall be the duty of the clerk of the municipality in preparing the collectors' roll thereof to place in the column of public school rates the rates of every ratepayer who shall not have given the said notice, so as, according to the provisions of the said section and of this Act, to entitle him to exemption from public school rates for the year for which such collectors' roll is being made up, but any error of the clerk in making up his roll shall not be conclusive on any ratepayer who shall be erroneously rated or entered therein, nor shall the assessment roll be any evidence as to whether such ratepayer is a supporter of the public schools or of the Roman Catholic separate schools."

The Mowat Government refused to accept this declaration, and the following members VOTED AGAINST IT (Votes and Proceedings, Session 1890, page 273):

Allan,	Harcourt,
Armstrong,	Hardy,
Awrey,	Leys,
Balfour,	Lyon,
Ballantyne,	McAndrew,
Bishop,	McKay,
Blezard,	McLaughlin,
Bronson,	McMahon,
Chisholm,	Mack,
Conmee,	Mackenzie,
Dack,	Master,
Dance,	Morin,
Davis,	Mowat,
Drury,	Murray,
Dryden,	O'Connor,
Evanturel,	Pacaud.
Ferguson,	Phelps,
Field,	Rayside,
Fraser,	Robillard,
Freeman,	Ross (Huron),
Garson,	Ross (Middlesex),
Gibson (Hamilton),	Smith (York),
Gibson, (Huron),	Snider,
Gilmour,	Sprague,
Gould,	Stratton,
Graham,	Waters,
Guthrie,	Wood (Brant),

Let the electors call these men to account at the polls.

DENIAL OF THE BALLOT TO SEPARATE SCHOOLS

It is in accordance with the spirit of the age that all voting should be by ballot. The supporters of public schools in Ontario possess the right in cities and towns to elect their trustees by secret ballot, and Mr. Meredith's policy is to extend this right to separate school supporters. It was a right which most Roman Catholics would like to have and which many of them openly agitated for, but it was understood that the ecclesiastical authorities were opposed to its being granted, so the Mowat

Government disregarded the popular demand and refused to confer this right.

Mr. Meredith thereupon introduced a bill at the last session of the Legislature, and on March 27th moved its adoption (Votes and Proceedings, 1890, page 274), and the following members of the Government party voted it down:

Allan,	Hardy,
Awrey,	Leys,
Balfour,	Lyon,
Ballantyne,	McAndrew,
Bishop,	McKay,
Blezard,	McLaughlin,
Bronson,	McMahon,
Chisholm,	Mack,
Conmee,	Mackenzie,
Dack,	Master,
Dance,	Morin,
Davis,	Mowat,
Drury,	Murray,
Dryden,	O'Connor,
Evanturel,	Pacaud,
Ferguson,	Phelps,
Field,	Rayside,
Fraser,	Robillard,
Freeman,	Ross (Huron),
Garson,	Ross (Middlesex).
Gibson (Hamilton),	Smith (York),
Gibson (Huron),	Snider,
Gilmour,	Sprague,
Gould,	Stratton,
Graham,	Waters,
Guthrie,	Wood (Brant),
Harcourt,	

The electors of Ontario will note the names of these men and inflict just punishment upon them. The bill which they rejected was to the following effect:

"1. Sub-section 1 of section 103 of the Public School Act, which left it optional with public school boards to introduce the ballot or not, was repealed.

"2. Sub-section 2 of the same section was changed to read as follows: The nomination and election of public school trustees shall be held at the same time and place, and by the same returning officer or officers, and conducted in the same manner as the municipal nominations and elections of aldermen or councillors, as the case may be, and the provisions of the Municipal Act respecting the time for opening and closing the poll, the mode of voting, corrupt or improper practices, vacancies and declarations of office shall *mutatis mutandis* apply to the election of public school trustees.

"3. The nomination and election of separate school trustees in any city, town or incorporated village shall be held at the same time and place, and in the same manner as the nomination and election of public school trustees are to be held, as provided by the Public Schools Act, as amended by this Act, and all the provisions of section 103 of the said last mentioned Act, as amended by this Act, as to the election being by ballot, and otherwise shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to trustees of separate schools in cities, towns and villages.

"4. Sub-section 12 of section 31 of the Separate Schools Act, and all the other provisions of the said Act which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed."

SEPARATE SCHOOL TEACHERS.

Those who profess to desire the improvement of the separate schools and refuse to take steps to raise the standard of qualification of the teachers in them are the worst enemies of separate school supporters. The Opposition policy is that the teachers in separate schools shall be just as well qualified as the teachers in public schools. The Mowat Government and their followers resist this reform.

At the recent session of the Legislature the Opposition policy in this matter was embodied in the following bill:

"Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the province of Ontario, enacts as follows:

"1. Section 61 of the Separate Schools Act is hereby repealed, and the following substituted therefor:

"(61) The teachers of a separate school under this Act shall be subject to the same examinations and receive their certificates of qualification in the same manner as public school teachers generally.

2. This Act shall go into effect on the first day of January, 1892."

The aim of this measure was to do away with the absurd provision of the law that *teachers with the qualifications demanded in the province of Quebec twenty-three years ago might to-day* be employed in the separate schools of Ontario, and in order that teachers thus qualified might have ample opportunity to comply with the new law the measure was not to go into force for two years. Could any proposition be more eminently in the best interests of education, of separate schools, and the parents of

separate school children than this? Yet the Government rejected it, and these are the members who aided in the rejection. (Votes and proceedings, March 27th, 1890, p. 276):

Allan,	Harcourt,
Armstrong,	Hardy,
Awrey	Leys,
Balfour	Lyon,
Ballantyne	McAndrew,
Bishop,	McKay,
Blezard	McLaughlin,
Bronson,	McMahon,
Chisholm,	Mack,
Conmee,	Mackenzie
Dack,	Master,
Dance,	Morin,
Davis,	Mowat,
Drury,	Murray,
Dryden,	O'Connor,
Evanturel,	Pacaud,
Ferguson,	Phelps,
Field,	Rayside,
Fraser,	Robillard,
Freeman,	Ross (Huron),
Garson,	Ross (Middlesex),
Gibson (Hamilton).	Smith (York)
Gibson (Huron),	Snider,
Gilmour,	Sprague,
Gould,	Stratton,
Graham,	Waters,
Guthrie,	Wood (Brant).

Let their names be remembered by the electors as utterly opposed to the true interests of the province.

AFRAID TO UPHOLD CIVIL RIGHTS.

The following resolution, moved by Mr. Meredith on 3rd of April, 1890, needs no comment. It explains itself:

"This House doth declare that the rights guaranteed by the British North America Act to the supporters of separate or dissentient schools are civil rights appertaining to them as citizens, and that the assumption that any church organization or body, or the bishops, priests or ministers thereof, are entitled to control the ratepayer in the exercise and enjoyment of such, his individual right, or to command obedience to its or their direction by him or by the trustees of any such school in the exercise by them of the duties delegated to them by the State, is wholly unwarranted and dangerous to the State and ought to be resisted.

"And this House doth further declare that it is within the constitutional right of the Legislature, through the department of education, to regulate such schools, and particularly to prescribe the text-books to be used in them, and that the said department ought, in the exercise of that right, to make provisions regulating the text-books to be used in said schools, except those employed in giving religious instruction, when and where such instruction is permitted by law."

Here is a clear and unmistakeable declaration of the principles of civil and religious liberty, but Messrs. Fraser and Mowat dared not let it pass, and the following members assisted them in voting it down. (Votes and Proceedings, p. 348):—

Allan,	Harcourt,
Armstrong,	Hardy,
Awrey,	Leys,
Ballantyne,	Lyon,
Bishop,	McAndrew,
Blezard,	McKay,
Chisholm,	McLaughlin,
Clarke (Wellington),	McMahon,
Conmee,	Mack,
Dack,	Mackenzie,
Davis,	Master,
Dance,	Morin,
Drury,	Mowat,
Dryden,	O'Connor,
Evanturel,	Phelps,
Ferguson,	Robillard,
Field,	Ross (Huron),
Fraser,	Ross (Middlesex),
Freeman,	Smith (York),
Garson,	Snider,
Gibson (Hamilton),	Sprague,
Gibson (Huron),	Stratton,
Gilmour,	Waters,
Gould,	Wood (Brant).
Graham,	

Let the electors mark the men who thus showed themselves afraid to declare these principles. Nor let them escape on the plea that the motion being made on going into Committee of Supply, was one of want of confidence and therefore had to be voted down. It is a well known constitutional rule that if the motion does not in its terms condemn the Government it is not necessarily want of confidence. Twice during the present session at Ottawa, on motions made on going into Committee of Supply—one by Hon. Mr. Mills respecting public buildings and the other by Hon. Mr. Blake respecting reference of constitutional questions to the Supreme Court—Sir John Macdonald announced that the Government agreed with the principles, and the motions

passed unanimously. *But Mr. Mowat dare not do so on this occasion.*

Mr. Mowat gave as an excuse for voting against the second part of the resolution that it was doubtful whether the Legislature had any power to regulate text books in separate schools. The old Council of Public Instruction had no such doubt as to their power, for at a meeting, with the late Archbishop Lynch present, they did not hesitate to declare their power, as follows, (Sessional Paper No. 40, 1890, p. 23):

"Council Room, Education Office,
"May 19th, 1875.

"The Council met pursuant to notice at 3 o'clock p.m., the Very Rev. H. J. Grasset, B.D., in the chair.

"Present—
"The Chairman.
"The Chief Superintendent of Education.
"Rev. J. Jennings, D.D.
"His Grace the Most Rev. J. J. Lynch, D.D.
"The Hon. W. MacMaster.
"H. M. Deroche, Esq., M.P.P.
"James Maclennan, Esq., M.A., Q.C.
"The Very Rev. W. Snodgrass, D.D.
"The Rev. J. Ambery, M.A.
"The Rev. S. S. Nelles, D.D., LL.D.
"The Rev. Bishop Carman, D.D.
"Daniel Wilson, Esq., LL.D.
"Goldwin Smith, Esq., M.A.
"Ordered,

"That the council having laid down a principle which precludes the introduction into the text-books used in public schools of religious dogma opposed to the tenets of any Christian denomination, and having removed from those text-books everything which had been pointed out to them by the Roman Catholic archbishop of this province as offensive to the feelings of Roman Catholics, *think it right, also to state what they conceive to be their duty with regard to the text books to be used in the separate schools.* With respect to these books the council do not consider themselves responsible for any statements of religious doctrine or for any expression of religious feeling, nor will they interfere with anything to which these terms may be fairly applied; *but they consider themselves responsible for the historical veracity of the books, and for their consistency with civil duty and the concord which ought to prevail, and which it is one object of a system of public education to promote, among all classes of her Majesty's subjects.*"

This was a clear definition of the right which Mr. Meredith contended for, and nobody doubted it till Mr. Mowat abjectly abandoned the right to control on behalf of the Province. What do the electors think of it?

REFUSING TO REFORM THE FRENCH SCHOOLS.

The position of the public schools in the counties of Russell and Prescott is now too well known to require reiteration here. Suffice it to say that although Mr. G. W. Ross had in the Legislature professed that everything was going well in these schools, the report of the Commission which public opinion afterward forced him to appoint revealed a state of affairs that amply sustained every charge which had been made. Although their former regulations had not been enforced, Messrs. Mowat and Ross simply proposed to meet the difficulty by promulgating another set of regulations which stood no more chance of being enforced than the former ones.

That was the state of affairs when the Legislature met in January last. The Opposition submitted their proposal in the form of a bill—definite, thorough and effectual. It was prepared in view of the fact that (1) English was being excluded from a large number of public schools; (2) English taxpayers were forced to send their children elsewhere to get an education; (3) text books with hostile teachings were employed in the schools; (4) the Quebec Nationalists, the allies of Mr. Mowat's Government, had boasted of their peaceful conquest of Ontario; (5) their doctrines were inculcated in public schools by the aid of the money of the whole people of Ontario. The bill contained the following provisions:

1. English shall be the language of every public and separate school in this province.
2. Save as provided by section 7 of this Act, no other language than the English shall be taught in any public or separate school in this province.
3. No teacher shall be employed or permitted to teach in any public or separate school in this province unless he is capable of speaking the English language and of conducting the proceedings of his school

according to the programme of studies applicable thereto in that language.

4. Nothing herein contained is to prevent a teacher, where it is impracticable by reason of any pupil not being able to understand the instruction which he desires to convey, if given in English, from imparting it to him in any language which such pupil is able to understand.

5. It shall be the duty of the school inspector to report at least once in every six months upon every school under his charge in which any other language than the English is taught, and in such report to certify as to whether the provisions of this Act are being complied with, and any violations thereof which have taken place, and also to report at least once in every six months the number of pupils attending each school under his charge who are not able to receive instruction by means of the English tongue.

6. Every teacher who shall be guilty of a wilful violation of the provisions of this Act shall be disqualified from teaching in any public or separate school in this province

7. And whereas in certain portions of the province it has been permitted for many years past that a language other than the English be taught in the schools, and it is expedient to make temporary provision with regard to the schools therein, it is therefore enacted that in those parts of the province in which schools now exist wherein any language other than the English is taught, such other language may, until the Legislature shall otherwise enact, be continued to be taught for such period not exceeding one hour per day, as the trustees may direct.

Provided always that the instruction given in such other language shall not interfere with, but shall be in addition to, the course of study in English prescribed for such schools, that only such text books shall be used as shall be authorized by regulation of the Department of Education, that such instruction shall be confined to reading, grammar and composition, and shall be given only to those pupils whose parents or guardians shall request it.

8. If it shall appear by the report of the inspector that the provisions of this Act are not being in good faith carried out in any school, the provisions of section 7 shall, after notice has been given to the trustees of the school of such report, and failure by them for one month to remedy what is reported against, cease to apply to such school.

9. All regulations of the Department of Education inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby abrogated and repealed.

This measure met every feature of the case and would have remedied the defect in the public school system as the Ross method cannot possibly hope to do. Yet it was voted down by the following supporters of the Government:

Allan,	Graham,
Armstrong,	Harcourt,
Awrey,	Hardy,
Balfour,	Leys,
Ballantyne,	Lyon,
Bishop,	McAndrew,
Blezard,	McKay,
Caldwell,	McLaughlin,
Chisholm,	McMahon,
Clarke (Wellington)	Mack,
Conmee,	Mackenzie.
Dack,	Master,
Dance,	Morin,
Davis,	Mowat,
Drury,	O'Connor,
Dryden,	Phelps,
Evanturel,	Robillard,
Ferguson,	Ross (Huron),
Field,	Ross (Middlesex),
Fraser,	Smith (York),
Freeman,	Snider,
Garson,	Sprague,
Gibson (Hamilton),	Stratton,
Gibson (Huron),	Waters,
Gilmour,	Wood (Brant).
Gould,	

Let the electors remember these men and their refusal to rid Ontario of a serious problem and prevent the introduction of a dual language difficulty in this province.

MR. MOWAT SANCTIONS THE "RIGHT" OF REBELLION.

When Mr. Mowat, in collusion with Mr. Mercier and assisted by other Grit politicians, was plotting to revolutionize our constitution by the resolutions of the so-called Interprovincial Conference at Quebec, he did not stick at trifles to secure adherents to his plans.

In the official record of the proceedings presented by him to the members of the Ontario Legislature, appears the following disgraceful minute as having received his approval. (Official Report, p. 26):—

"The representatives from Nova Scotia present at the conference desired the following minute to be entered upon the record of the proceedings, and *the Conference agreed* to the entry being made accordingly:

"In view of the recent movement in the Province of Nova Scotia, the representatives of that Province desire to place on record that *they participate in the deliberations of this conference upon the understanding* that, while they join the representatives of the sister provinces in seeking reforms in matters which are of common interest, they do so *without prejudice to the right* of the Government, Legislature or people of Nova Scotia to *take any course* that may in future be by them deemed desirable *with a view to the separation of the Province from the Dominion.*"

So, to obtain the assistance of these men to the plans of Mr. Mercier and himself, Mr. Mowat entered into a bargain with them to admit their "right" to secede by taking *any course*—annexation, secession, armed rebellion, he cared not a jot which—so long as they would assist him in his schemes.

And this is no vague accusation founded upon mere rumor. The agreement was made at a meeting over which Mr. Mowat presided, it was authenticated by his signature, and it is taken from the official records of the proceedings.

To aggrandize himself and his associate, Mr. Mercier, he was willing to sit in council with men who meditated secession and rebellion, and even stooped to sanction their "right" to carry out their intention.

Is Mr. Mowat a fit Premier for the Province of Ontario?

GAGGING THE LEGISLATURE.

It will be remembered that at the instance of Mr. Mercier, Mr. Mowat and his colleagues went to Quebec in 1887, and there, at what is known as the Interprovincial Conference, helped the Quebec Premier to pass a series of resolutions proposing to revolutionize the constitution of the Dominion. When Mr. Mowat proposed these resolutions to the Legislature, on the 8th of March, 1888, the Opposition started to exercise their constitutional right to discuss them in detail and propose amendments; but Mr. Mowat saw that many of his followers would be forced to condemn some of the details if he permitted them to be moved against, and although they had a large majority at their back the Government was afraid to have the details brought under scrutiny, so Mr. Fraser jumped up and applied the *cloture* or gag law, moving an amendment to adopt the resolutions in bulk, thus shutting off further discussion or amendment. The following members assisted him to perpetrate this outrage on freedom of discussion in the Legislature (Journals, 1887, p. 98):

Allan,	Harcourt,
Armstrong,	Hardy,
Awrey,	Leys,
Balfour,	Lyon,
Ballantyne,	McAndrew,
Bishop,	McKay,
Blezard,	McLaughlin,
Bronson,	McMahon,
Chisholm,	Mack,
Clarke (Wellington),	Master,
Clarke (Northumb'rld')	Morin,
Conmee,	Mowat,
Dack,	Murray,
Drury,	Nairn,
Dryden,	O'Connor,
Evanturel,	Pacaud,
Ferguson,	Phelps,
Field,	Rayside,
Fraser,	Robillard,
Freeman,	Ross (Huron),
Garson,	Ross (Middlesex),
Gibson (Hamilton),	Smith (York),
Gibson (Huron),	Snider,
Gilmour,	Stratton,
Gould,	Waters,
Graham,	Widdifield,
Guthrie,	Wood (Brant).

That there might be no mistake as to the meaning of this action of Mr. Fraser and his followers, Mr. Meredith had it put plainly by the following minute in the journals (p. 99):

"Mr. Meredith rose to a point of order, and enquired of Mr. Speaker whether or not the amendment to the proposed amendment as carried precluded any further motion to amend the resolution, and Mr. Speaker decided that, in respect of further proposed amendments to the main motion as now amended, Mr. Speaker ruled that as the House, by the words added to the main motion, had expressed concurrence in the resolution, no such further amendment declaring, or by its terms involving, non-concurrence of the House in said resolutions could be proposed."

Let the electors say what they think of this high-handed stifling of discussion when an attempt was being made to revolutionize our constitution.

THE LICENSE INIQUITY.

The records show the Mowat Government's course on the license question to be exceptionally bad. The power of appointing license commissioners was taken over from the municipalities with the express promise by Mr. Mowat that independent boards would be appointed. But the system soon became a gigantic engine of partisan injustice and intolerable coercion. So much so that during the session of 1889 the Opposition directed attention to the scandals of the system and recited the chief complaints in the following motion, moved by Mr. Meredith, seconded by Mr. Creighton, March 14 (Journals, p. 14):

"That all the words in the motion after 'that' be omitted, and the following substituted therefor: 'The present mode of administering the liquor license laws through the board of commissioners and inspectors appointed by the Government of the day has resulted in a partisan administration of the law; has subjected those engaged in the liquor traffic to undue influence by and in the interest of the dominant party in this province; has led in many cases to the tyrannical exercise of the powers of the commissioners and inspectors, and in others to the lax enforcement of the law and the condoning for partisan purposes of offences against its provisions; has unduly and unfairly interfered with the freedom of exercising their franchise by those engaged in the liquor traffic, and is otherwise mischievous in its purpose and operation; and while declaring its firm intention and purpose to be, not to relax or impair the efficiency of the other provisions of the law, and particularly those limiting the number of licenses to be granted, this House is of opinion that it is essential to the honest, non-partisan and faithful execution of the liquor license laws that the present mode of appointing boards of commissioners should be abrogated, and provision be made for placing the appointment of the commissioners in the hands of a body more removed from the influence of partisanship, and more directly responsible to and under the control of the people."

Declining to remedy any of the evils brought to their attention, the Government and their followers voted it down, but during the late session the Opposition again brought forward the matter and propounded their policy for the removal of the injurious system in the following proposition, moved April 2nd by Mr. Meredith, seconded by Mr. Creighton, in amendment to the Government's license bill, which was then being read a third time. (Votes and Proceedings 1890, p. 307):

"That the bill be not now read a third time, but be forthwith referred back to a committee of the whole House with instructions to amend the same so as to provide that the license commissioners shall hereafter be appointed in counties by the county councils, and in cities and towns separated from counties shall be elected by the municipal electors of such city or town."

But Mr. Mowat refused to give up the power which the political control of licenses gave him as a party engine, and called on his followers, who voted it down as follows (Votes and Proceedings, p. 307):

Allan,	Harcourt,
Armstrong,	Hardy,
Awrey,	Leys,
Balfour,	Lyon,
Ballantyne,	McAndrew,
Bishop,	McKay,
Blezard,	McLaughlin,
Caldwell,	McMahon,
Chisholm,	Mack,
Clarke (Wellington),	Mackenzie,
Conmee,	Master,
Dack,	Miller,
Dance,	Morin,
Davis,	Mowat,
Drury,	Murray,
Dryden,	O'Connor,
Evanturel,	Phelps,
Ferguson,	Rayside,
Field,	Robillard,
Fraser,	Ross (Huron),
Freeman,	Ross (Middlesex),
Garson,	Smith (York),
Gibson (Hamilton),	Snider,
Gibson (Huron)	Sprague,
Gilmour,	Stratton,
Gould,	Waters,
Graham,	Wood (Brant).

RULING OUT WOMAN'S INFLUENCE.

The Mowat Government professed to have introduced a measure last session designed to improve the license law in the interests of temperance and good order. When it was before the House, the Opposition desired to amend one of its clauses in the right direction. This clause provided that before a new license in a polling sub-division could be granted, a petition had to be presented,

signed by a majority of the voters in the polling sub-division. The voters' lists used for this purpose were, according to the Government bill, the lists used for provincial elections. The Opposition moved (Votes and Proceedings, p. 305) that the lists used be the municipal voters' lists. The reason is obvious. In the municipal elections women have the right to vote, and women, having a vital interest in all matters pertaining to license laws, ought to have their say in such a case. But the Government refused to allow them to have a voice, and the following members voted down the amendment (Votes and Proceedings, April 2, 1890, p. 306):

Allan,	Graham,
Armstrong,	Harcourt,
Awrey,	Hardy,
Ballantyne,	Leys,
Bishop,	Lyon,
Blezard,	McAndrew,
Caldwell,	McKay,
Clarke (Wellington),	McLaughlin,
Conmee,	McMahon,
Dance,	Mackenzie,
Davis,	Master,
Drury,	Morin,
Dryden,	Mowat,
Evanturel,	Murray,
Ferguson,	O'Connor,
Field,	Phelps,
Fraser,	Robillard.
Freeman,	Ross (Huron),
Garson,	Ross (Middlesex),
Gibson (Hamilton),	Smith (York),
Gibson (Huron),	Sprague,
Gilmour,	Wood (Brant)
Gould,	

Let those who have been carried away by the hypocritical professions of the Mowat Government in favor of temperance ponder this vote.

TORONTO REGISTRARSHIP JOB

As the law stands, when a registrar's fees exceed a certain amount a proportion of them go to the city or county. Notwithstanding this provision, the rapid progress of the city of Toronto had increased the fees of the registrar to a very large amount. Instead of taking the obvious course proposed by the Opposition of increasing the proportion going to the city, so that the registrar would only have a fair salary, Mr. Mowat determined to reward Mr. Peter Ryan, a partisan supporter, and rob the city of Toronto to furnish an unnecessary office for him, so he introduced a bill to create an additional registrar for Toronto. When this bill came up for a second reading on 26th February, 1889, Mr. Meredith moved, seconded by Mr. Ingram (Journals, p. 78):

"It is inexpedient to provide for the division of the city of Toronto for registration purposes, and thereby as well to create an office to be filled by a partisan of the Government of the day and so divert from the treasury of the city of Toronto that portion of the surplus fees of the office of registrar which, under the existing law, is payable to the said city, and that the bill be not now read the second time, but be read a second time this day six months."

But the Government determined to go on with the disgraceful job, and the following members voted down the amendment:

Allan,	Graham,
Armstrong,	Guthrie,
Awrey,	Harcourt,
Balfour,	Hardy,
Ballantyne,	Lyon,
Bishop,	McAndrew,
Blezard,	McKay,
Bronson,	McMahon,
Caldwell,	Mack.
Chisholm,	Morin,
Clarke (Wellington),	Mowat,
Conmee,	Murray,
Dack,	O'Connor,
Dance,	Pacaud,
Drury,	Phelps,
Evanturel,	Rayside,
Ferguson,	Robillard,
Field,	Ross (Huron),
Fraser,	Ross (Middlesex),
Freeman,	Smith (York),
Garson,	Snider,
Gibson (Hamilton),	Sprague,
Gibson (Huron),	Stratton,
Gilmour,	Waters,
Gould,	Wood (Brant).

Finding this effort fruitless, the two representatives of the people of Toronto, Mr. H. E. Clarke, seconded by Mr. E. F. Clarke, on the third reading, on March 20, moved as follows (Journals, p. 130):

"Of the further fees and emoluments received by each registrar in each year in excess of $4,500, not exceeding $15,000, he shall be entitled to retain to his own use fifty per cent. and no more, and of the further fees and emoluments received by

each registrar in each year in excess of $15,000, he shall be entitled to retain to his own use twenty-five per cent. and no more."

But the Government still persisted in this flagrant robbery of the city, and this amendment was also voted down by the same members (Mr. Guthrie being absent), with the addition of the following:

Davis,	McLaughlin,
Leys,	Master.

What do the electors think of this robbery of ratepayers to provide an office for a partisan?

PATRONAGE AT THE PUBLIC COST.

The manner in which Mr. Mowat has manufactured unnecessary offices, thus assailing the pockets of the people that he may have fat billets with which to reward his partisans, gain venal adherents, multiply "subscribers" to official campaign funds and obtain other party or personal advantages is a very dark feature of his public record. One black page is to be found in the journals of the Legislative Assembly for 1887, (April 22nd) page 145, as follows:

"Mr. Meredith moved in amendment—to the third reading of the Bill 'For further improving the law'—seconded by Mr. Creighton:

"That this House has adopted the policy with regard to the fees of Registrars of Deeds and Clerks of Division Courts, that in order to prevent the payment of excessive compensation for the services rendered, a proportion of the receipts of these offices, which will leave ample remuneration for the holders of them, should be returned to the people; that this House recognizes that policy as sound in principle, and is of opinion that it should be extended to the office of sheriff; that by section 4 of the said bill it is proposed to divide the office of sheriff of the county of York, the fees of which are admitted to give an excessive income to the occupant of it, and by so doing to give to the holders of the new offices the moneys which, according to the said principle, would and ought to be paid into the treasury of the county of York and the city of Toronto; that it is not expedient that the said section should become law, and that the said Bill be, therefore not now read the third time, but be forthwith referred back to the committee of the whole House with instructions to strike out the said section."

However, the Ministers stood up and their followers obediently rose to reject the Conservative amendment and to declare that the money should be kept from the treasuries of York and Toronto to go to Mr. Mowat's pets, the holders of the new offices. The following Grit members voted for this outrage (see Journal, 1887, page 146):

Allan,	Hardy,
Armstrong,	Hilliard,
Awrey,	Leys,
Balfour,	McAndrew,
Ballantyne,	McKay,
Bishop,	McLaughlin,
Biezard,	McMahon,
Chamberlain,	Mack,
Chisholm,	Morin,
Clarke (Wellington),	Mowat,
Conmee,	Nairn,
Dack,	O'Connor,
Drury,	Pardee,
Dryden,	Phelps,
Evanturel,	Rayside,
Ferguson,	Robillard,
Field,	Ross (Huron),
Fraser,	Ross (Middlesex),
Freeman,	Smith,
Gibson (Hamilton),	Snider,
Gibson (Huron),	Sprague,
Gilmour,	Stratton,
Gould,	Waters,
Graham,	Widdifield,
Guthrie,	Wood (Brant),
Harcourt.	

Having thus carried the outrage through the House, Mr. Mowat made matters worse by violating one of the professions of the party and giving the unnecessary office thus vacated to his own son.

The electors should no more tolerate such fleecers of the municipalities to create offices for themselves or their friends. No municipality is safe while such men are in power. The ballots should speak to them the public verdict.

APPOINTMENT OF REGISTRARS.

Determined to put an end to the scandals which have arisen under the power of the Government to appoint Registrars, and to do justice to the counties by allowing the County Councils to appoint Registrars, and to fund the fees for the benefit of the counties, giving these officers reasonable salaries, Mr. Meredith, seconded by Mr. Clancy, when a Registry Bill was going

through the House on April 2nd, 1890, moved to add the following (Votes and Proceedings, p. 309):

"Registrars of deeds shall hereafter be appointed by the council of the city or county wherein the registration division for which they are appointed is situate.

"Whenever the council of any city or county within which a registration division is situate shall pass a by-law declaring that the fees of the Registrar of such registration division shall be funded, and that the registrar and his clerks shall be paid by salary, it shall on, from and after the first day of January next, after the passing of such by-law, be the duty of such city or county council to provide for the appointment of a registrar and such other clerks and assistants as may be required for the proper performance of the duties of the office, and for the payment to them of such salaries or wages as they may think fit, and all the fees which pertain to the office of the registrar shall thereafter be received by him for the use of such city or county, and by him paid over to the treasurer thereof at such times as shall by by-law of such council be directed.

"Whenever a council passes a by-law as provided by the last preceding section, the corporation which it represents, shall on, from and after the first day of January next, after the passing of such by-law be responsible for the due performance by the registrar of all the duties which are by law imposed upon him, or which pertain to his office, and shall take security from the registrar, and such clerks and assistants for the performance of their duty.

"A certified copy of every such by-law shall immedately after the passing thereof be transmitted to the Provincial Secretary, and another certified copy thereof shall be registered in the office of the registration division to which it relates.

"Whenever any such by-law shall be passed as aforesaid, the registrar holding the office when it takes effect shall be entitled if he chooses to accept the office at the salary fixed by the council, to continue in office as the officer of the council on his giving security as provided in section 2.

"The salary fixed by the council shall in the case of registrars to which the preceding section applies, be subject to the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council."

But Mr. Mowat was not willing to relinquish the power to commit such outrages as he had perpetrated in Toronto, and called his followers to vote down the motion, which the following members did:—

Allan,	Harcourt,
Armstrong,	Hardy,
Awrey,	Leys,
Balfour,	Lyon,
Ballantyne,	McAndrew,
Bishop,	McKay,
Blezard,	McLaughlin,
Caldwell,	McMahon,
Chisholm,	Mack,
Clarke (Wellington),	Mackenzie.
Conmee,	Master,
Dack,	Morin,
Davis,	Mowat,
Drury,	Murray,
Dryden,	O'Connor,
Evanturel,	Phelps,
Ferguson,	Rayside,
Field,	Robillard,
Fraser,	Ross (Huron),
Freeman,	Ross (Middlesex),
Garson,	Smith (York),
Gibson (Hamilton)	Snider,
Gibson (Huron),	Sprague,
Gilmour,	Stratton,
Gould,	Waters,
Graham.	Wood (Brant),

Let the counties represented by these men say what they think of their vote on this question.

REFUSING TO PUNISH BRIBERS.

Notwithstanding that our law imposes a fine for bribery at elections, it is found that unfortunately it does not prevent this crime against the community, and that the only effectual way to put down bribery would be to make it punishable by imprisonment. Mr. Whitney, of Dundas, at the last session introduced a Bill to accomplish this, and on April 1st, 1890, moved its second reading.

After all his loud professions of purity it would have been thought that Mr. Mowat would give this his hearty support, but instead of that he bitterly opposed it, and called on his followers to vote it down, which the following members did, (Votes and Proceedings, p. 297):

Allan,	Conmee,
Armstrong,	Dack,
Awrey,	Dance,
Ballantyne,	Davis,
Bishop,	Drury,
Blezard,	Dryden,
Caldwell,	Evanturel,
Chisholm,	Ferguson,
Clarke (Wellington),	Field,

Fraser,	Mackenzie,
Freeman,	Master,
Garson,	Morin,
Gibson (Hamilton),	Mowat,
Gibson (Huron),	Murray,
Gilmour,	O'Connor,
Gould,	Phelps,
Graham,	Rayside,
Guthrie,	Robillard,
Harcourt,	Ross (Huron),
Hardy,	Ross (Middlesex),
Leys,	Smith (York),
Lyon,	Snider,
McAndrew,	Sprague,
McKay,	Stratton,
McLaughlin,	Waters,
McMahon,	Wood, (Brant).

In view of the revelations which have been since made about the bribery fund Organizer Preston is collecting from public officials, it is now seen why Mr. Mowat did not want to make bribery punishable by imprisonment. Let the electors say what they think of him and his followers refusing to do so.

REFUSING A SECRET BALLOT.

It is well known that the ballot at Ontario elections is not a secret one, but that by means of the number on the back it may be known for whom an elector has voted, thus opening the way for bribery and intimidation and vitiating the principle for which the ballot was established. Last session Mr. A. F. Wood, of Hastings, introduced the following bill to make the ballot a secret one:

"Whereas the provisions of the Ontario Election Act do not secure a secret ballot at elections of members of the Legislative Assembly, and it is essential to the efficiency and security of the system of voting by ballot that the ballot should be a secret one; and whereas the provisions of the Municipal Act, which secure a secret ballot at elections of mayors, aldermen, reeves and other members of municipal councils, have been found to work satisfactorily, and it is expedient to amend the Ontario Election Act so as to make the ballot at elections of members of the Legislative Assembly similar to the ballot provided for municipal elections;

"Therefore her majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the province of Ontario, enacts as follows:

"1. So much of sub-section 4 of section 63 of the Ontario Election Act as provides that every ballot paper shall have a number printed on the back thereof, and that the same number shall be printed on the face of the counterfoil attached thereto is hereby repealed, and hereafter neither the ballot nor the counterfoil shall be numbered.

"2. So much of sub-section 9 of section 90 of the said Act as provides that the deputy returning officer shall write or otherwise mark on the counterfoil the number prefixed to the name upon the voters' list of a person presenting himself for the purpose of voting is hereby repealed, and hereafter such number shall not be written or marked thereon."

But Messrs. Fraser and Mowat were not willing that electors should have the protection of a secret ballot, and with the aid of the following members rejected this bill (Votes and Proceedings March 12, p. 197):

Allan,	Harcourt,
Armstrong,	Hardy,
Awrey,	Leys,
Ballantyne,	Lyon,
Bishop,	McAndrew,
Blezard,	McKay,
Bronson,	McLaughlin,
Caldwell,	McMahon,
Clarke (Wellington),	Mack,
Conmee,	Mackenzie,
Dack,	Master,
Dance,	Morin,
Davis,	Mowat,
Drury,	Murray,
Dryden,	O'Connor,
Evanturel,	Pacaud,
Ferguson,	Phelps,
Field,	Rayside,
Fraser,	Robillard,
Freeman,	Ross (Huron),
Garson,	Ross (Middlesex),
Gibson (Hamilton),	Smith (York),
Gibson (Huron),	Snider,
Gilmour,	Sprague,
Gould,	Stratton,
Graham,	Waters,
Guthrie,	Wood (Brant).

What do old Reformers think of these men?

DISFRANCHISING GOOD VOTERS.

As the law stands, some of our judges believe they are authorized to strike off the name of a voter who has been appealed against on the mere ground that he has not attended to defend his right, and without any evidence that he is not entitled to be on

the list. When it was found that this was the practice in some counties, Mr. Meredith, in amendment to the Voters List Act, on 12th February, 1889, moved as follows (Journals, p. 43):

"It is not desirable that the right of a person entered upon the voters' list to be a voter should be taken away for mere non-attendance at the court for the trial of complaints against the voters' list, unless there is reasonable ground for believing that the right of such person to be a voter is fairly open to question, and that the bill be therefore not now read a third time, but be forthwith referred back to the committee of the whole House with instructions to amend sub-section 3 of section 14 by adding thereto the words: But in the case of a person whose name is entered on the voters' list his name shall not be struck off unless the judge is of opinion that there is reasonable ground for believing that the right of such person to vote is fairly open to question."

But Mr. Mowat was not prepared to do this simple act of justice to men who were in danger of being deprived of their votes, and called on his followers, when the following members voted down the amendment:

Allan,
Armstrong,
Balfour,
Ballantyne,
Blezard,
Bronson,
Caldwell,
Chisholm,
Clarke (Wellington),
Conmee,
Dack,
Dance,
Davis,
Drury,
Ferguson,
Field,
Fraser,
Freeman,
Garson,
Gibson (Hamilton),
Gibson (Huron),
Gilmour,
Gould,
Graham.
Harcourt,
Hardy,
Leys,
Lyon,
McKay,
McMahon,
Mack,
Master,
Morin,
Mowat,
Murray,
O'Connor,
Pacaud,
Phelps,
Rayside,
Ross (Huron),
Ross (Middlesex),
Smith (York),
Snider,
Sprague,
Stratton,
Waters,
Wood (Brant),

Is there any reason why a man who is duly qualified should be put to the expense and trouble of losing his day and coming before the Judge because some one wishing to give him trouble enters an appeal? And why should he be deprived of his right of voting when there is no reasonable ground for believing that his right to do so is fairly open to question?

Let the electors ask Mr. Mowat and those who helped him to vote this down, why they did so.

THE TORONTO MINORITY TRICK.

The City of Toronto being Conservative, Mr. Mowat, under pretence of giving it additional representation, reduced its vote on a division to one by giving the minority a member to counteract the vote of one of the real representatives. On the motion for the third reading of the bill "To extend the franchise" (the title of the Gerrymander Act of 1885), moved in amendment (Journals 1885, page 168):

"That it is by this bill proposed to apply to the city of Toronto a plan of minority representation, which has been abandoned after trial in Great Britain as unsatisfactory. That in the opinion of this House the proposed plan ought not to be adopted, but if it is desirable to admit the principle of minority representation a more satisfactory plan should be adopted, and made applicable to all counties which return three members, and that the bill be not now read the third time, but be forthwith referred back to a committee of the whole House with instructions to strike out the provisions thereof, limiting the right of electors of the city of Toronto to voting for two members."

Mr. Mowat refused to do Toronto justice, but adhered to his pretended imitation of the abandoned experiment in the Mother country, where, however, the principle had been applied impartially to counties and cities with three members, irrespective of the party complexion of the minority, and not as by the Attorney-General to one city to secure an unfair party advantage. His colleagues and supporters aided him to commit this outrage by the following vote:

Awrey,
Badgerow,
Balfour,
Ballantyne,
Baxter,
Bishop,
Blezard,
Chisholm,
Cooke,
Dill,
Ferris,
Fraser,
Freeman,
Gibson (Hamilton),
Gibson (Huron),
Gillies,
Gould,
Graham,
Hagar,
Harcourt,
Hardy,
Hart,
Laidlaw,
McIntyre,

McKenzie,	Pardee,
McKim,	Ross (Huron),
McLaughlin,	Ross (Middlesex).
McMahon,	Sills,
Master,	Waters,
Morin,	Widdifield,
Mowat,	Young.
O'Connor,	

All admirers of our system of representative government should resent this iniquitous attack upon its principle, and voters in other constituencies should be more zealous in doing justice upon the offenders, because the electors of Toronto being thus partially disfranchised are dishonestly weakened in the defence of their rights.

NO PINE FOR THE SETTLERS.

In the Free Grants Act as passed by the Sandfield Macdonald Government, the settler was entitled to the few sticks of pine that might remain on his lot after the issue of the patent, but in 1880 the Mowat Government amended the law so that the settler, even after the patent was issued, did not get control of his own lot, but the lumbermen, as long as there was a stick of pine there, could go in and take it. The Opposition protested, but they were powerless to prevent the change. Last session another attempt was made in the interest of the settler to put the law back where it was formerly. On the third reading of the bill to amend the Free Grants Act on April 3rd, 1890, Mr. Marter moved as an amendment to add the following (Votes and Proceedings, page 329):

"Sections 11 and 12 of the Free Grants and Homestead Act are hereby repealed, provided always that the repeal of the said sections shall not take away from the patentee, his heirs or assigns, the right to payment mentioned in section 12 as hereby amended to which he or they may be entitled, in respect of timber cut, before the passing of this Act, and all trees remaining on any free grant lands when the patent issues shall become the property of the patentee."

This small boon or rather act of justice to the hard working settlers in our free grant districts was sternly refused by the Ministers, and their followers joined with them in the refusal, voting against the proposal as below:

Allan,	Graham,
Awrey,	Harcourt,
Balfour,	Hardy,
Ballantyne,	Leys,
Bishop,	Lyon,
Blezard,	McAndrew,
Caldwell,	McKay,
Chisholm,	McLaughlin,
Clarke (Wellington),	Mack,
Dack,	Mackenzie,
Dance,	Master,
Davis,	Morin,
Drury,	Mowat,
Dryden,	O'Connor,
Evanturel,	Phelps,
Ferguson,	Robillard.
Field,	Ross (Huron),
Fraser,	Ross (Middlesex),
Freeman,	Smith (York),
Garson,	Snider,
Gibson (Hamilton),	Stratton,
Gibson (Huron),	Waters,
Gilmour,	Wood (Brant)
Gould,	

Not only the free grant settlers who met with this curt refusal, but all who are interested in the settlement of this province will feel inclined to give these gentlemen a lesson.

SQUANDERING COLONIZATION ROAD MONEY.

It has been notorious for years that the way in which colonization road money is expended is a shame and disgrace to the administration of the province. The Opposition are willing that money should be properly laid out for the benefit of new districts, but the present system does not secure that. The people in the new districts know full well that the money goes largely into the hands of electioneering road bosses, and is not devoted to the needs of the localities. The corrupt expenditure of the money is evident from the fact that every election year the expenditure runs away up above the usual figure, thus indicating the corrupt nature of the expenditure. The Opposition desire that the colonization road fund shall be used entirely in the public interest. They desire to hand over the money to the localities, to the municipal bodies whose members are elected to look after just such matters as the expenditure of money upon roads. Accordingly, Mr. Marter moved in the Legislature April 21st,

1887, seconded by Mr. Lees (Journals, 1887, p. 138):

"This House is of opinion that where municipal organization exists the councils should, as far as practicable, be entrusted under proper regulations for securing their due application with the expenditure of moneys voted for colonization road purposes within their municipalities.

The Mowat Government, however, were not willing to relinquish the power of expending this money in the party rather than the public interest, and the following names are recorded against this reasonable proposition:

Allan,	Hardy,
Armstrong,	Hilliard,
Awrey,	Leys,
Balfour,	Lyon,
Ballantyne,	McKay,
Bishop,	McLaughlin,
Blezard,	McMahon,
Caldwell,	Mack,
Chamberlain,	Master,
Chisholm,	Morin,
Clarke (Wellington),	Mowat,
Conmee,	Murray,
Dack,	Nairn,
Drury,	O'Connor,
Dryden,	Pacaud,
Evanturel,	Pardee,
Ferguson,	Phelps,
Field,	Rayside,
Fraser,	Robillard,
Freeman,	Ross (Huron),
Garson,	Ross (Middlesex),
Gibson (Hamilton),	Smith (York),
Gibson, (Huron),	Snider,
Gilmour,	Sprague,
Gould,	Stratton,
Graham,	Waters,
Guthrie,	Widdifield,
Harcourt,	Wood (Brant),

Let the electors rebuke such conduct whenever any of these men appear before them in the coming election.

THE PARLIAMENT BUILDING JOB.

The extraordinary proceedings of the Mowat Government in connection with the erection of the new Parliament buildings ought to be studied by every elector of the province, for they reveal one of the crookedest transactions, as well as the most deliberate defiance of the House, that Canada has ever witnessed. In 1880 the Government invited the House to appropriate $500,000 for the erection of new Parliament buildings, solemnly promising that if the buildings were found to cost more than that they would not go on with them. Competitive designs were advertised for and submitted to three experts, viz.: Hon. Alex. Mackenzie, Mr. W. G. Storm, of Toronto, and Mr. R. A. Waite, of Buffalo. They selected two sets of plans, those of Darling & Curry, and of Gordon & Helliwell, both of Toronto, and after some modifications had been suggested and made, advertised for tenders on them. These tenders were found to exceed $500,000, and the Government according to promise did not go on. In 1885 Mr. Fraser again came before the House and asked them to appropriate an additional two hundred and fifty thousand, and assured them the building could certainly be erected for that sum, as they had two sets of plans approved by experts, and they had tenders on them far below the sum of $750,000. Here is his language as reported in the *Globe* of March 19, 1885:

"After the Act of 1880 competitive designs were asked for. These were remodelled and modified, and tenders were asked for the erection of the buildings according to two of these sets of designs, the first set being the work of architects, Messrs. Gordon & Helliwell, and the second set being the work of Messrs. Darling & Curry, * * * *One of these two designs will be accepted.* * * * *The Government's proposition is to select one of these two designs.* We are now in a position to say *with sufficient accuracy what the new buildings built according to either of these designs will cost.* When the House asked the Government in 1880 to give an estimate of the cost of the proposed buildings, the Government were not in a position to give a correct estimate. In the estimates which I am now able to lay before the House precautions have been taken that there should be no extras. We asked for tenders for the erection of buildings according to the two plans which I have mentioned, and I propose to give the House the result of the actual tenders received, so that the House may see that in asking for this sum we are asking for a sum THAT WILL BE AMPLE FOR THE ERECTION OF THE BUILDINGS UPON EITHER ONE OF THESE PLANS. For the erection of the buildings according to the plan of Messrs. Gordon & Helliwell we received ten different tenders from con

tractors all of whom were men of experience and all financially able to undertake this work and willing to undertake it, so that they were in every respect the tenders of first-class men.

"Mr. Carnegie—They will be tendered for again of course?

"Mr. Fraser—Oh, yes; and there is every reason to believe that *the tenders will be rather less than these.* Five of these ten were under the sum of $600,000. These five were respectively for $542,000, $556,000, $578,000, $580,000 and $585,000. * * * The other plan received nine tenders, most of which were by the same persons. Three out of the nine exceed $600,000 a very little. They are, respectively, $612,000, $626,000, $626,000. Three others did not exceed $750,000; they were for $703,000, $719,000 and $750,000, so that six out of the nine tenders for the more expensive design did not exceed $750,000. The lowest, $612,000, was by a competent firm, able to carry out the work, which would leave a margin from the sum asked of about $150,000."

The House voted the additional sum making $750,000 in all, understanding that the plans of one of the Canadian architects which had been approved would be proceeded with. But Mr. Fraser suddenly discovered that these plans would again have to be submitted to scrutiny, and instead of calling in the three experts, he simply called in Mr. Waite, of Buffalo, to sit in sole judgment on the Canadian plans. Although this was one of the gentlemen who had before approved of these plans, he, now, when alone with nobody to check him, professed to find them so defective that they had to be rejected! But a more extraordinary thing was to follow, for it was soon discovered that this same Mr. Waite, of Buffalo, after rejecting the Canadian plans, was commissioned by Mr. Fraser to draft plans himself, and was hard at work at them! A more indecent thing than a man being made sole judge over the plans of others, and after rejecting them taking the task of making plans himself has never been heard of before amongst honorable men. Yet that was the transaction carried out under the auspices of the Minister of Public Works! Nor was that all. On March 10th, 1887, Mr. Creighton moved for a copy of the report of Mr. Waite on which the Canadian plans were rejected, as well as the report of experts on the plans of Mr. Waite.

The Government dare not let Mr. Waite's report see the light of day, and amended the resolution so as to leave out that part of it, as well as the request for report of experts on Mr. Waite's plans! (Journals, p. 29.) They admitted that they had allowed these plans to be rejected on a report that was mainly verbal, and that although the plans of the Canadian architects had to be submitted twice to the scrutiny of experts, they accepted the plans of the Buffalo architect without submitting to experts at all! (See *Globe* and *Mail* reports, March 11th, 1887.) And while the plans of the Canadian architects had to be complete to the most minute detail before they could be accepted, they allowed their favored Buffalo architect to go on with plans so defective, that the plan of the whole upper portion of the building had to be changed after the work was well under way! What do the electors think of this insult to Canadian architects, and the scandalous transaction with Mr. Waite of Buffalo?

But disgraceful as were these dealings about the plans, there is a worse feature still in connection with the erection of these Parliament Buildings. As will be seen above, Mr. Fraser assured the House the buildings would not be proceeded with if they cost more than the amount appropriated, and gave the amount of the tenders on the approved Canadian plans to show that they could be erected well within the limit. In addition to this the statute itself expressly limited the amount which could be spent for these buildings. Section 1 of chap. 2, 1880, as amended by the Act of 1885, reads as follows:

"A sum *not exceeding seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars* is hereby appropriated and set apart from and out of the surplus moneys forming part of the consolidated revenue fund of this province for the purpose of erecting new buildings with requisite appurtenances for the accommodation of the Legislature and the several departments of the public service, etc."

But in violation of his own solemn promise to the House, and in defiance of the statute, Mr. Fraser, on the eve of the last election, let a contract or he walls alone

for $752,250 (sessional paper 28 of 1887, p 14), which with the Architect's fees brings the cost of the bare walls, without floors, roof, windows, doors or any other interior work, to nearly forty thousand dollars more than the sum appropriated for the whole building, and nobody knows to the present day what the building is going to cost! The facts about this contract were studiously concealed and denied during the last election, but they can be concealed no longer, and it is now for the people to say what they think of this flagrant proceeding. If the Government of the day is to be permitted thus to break its own solemn promise, set a statute at defiance, and commit the province to an expenditure two or three times as much as the House and statute had expresly limited them to, we may as well at once give up the pretence of constitutional government and go back to the days of absolutism. Let the electors speak out on this question at the polls.

THE HIGH PRICED TEXT BOOK SWINDLE.

Under the burdensome policy of the Mowat Government, the parents of Ontario are annually robbed of large sums of money through grievously high-priced text books owing to the blundering incapacity, or something worse, of the Minister of Education in allowing publishing firms to secure monopolies and advantages at the public expense. It has been shown in the Legislature that the set of school readers which cost the large sum of $1.35, are issued at a cost to the publishers of 51 cents, thus showing the enormous profit made by the monopolies for the existence of which the people pay dearly. During the past two or three years additional facts have come out with regard to the Government's deliberate robbery of the people by means of exorbitant priced text books. A notorious case in point is that of the public school drawing books. The price first charged for each copy of the drawing book was 10 cents. This the Opposition denounced as scandalously and unnecessarily high, five cents being contended as quite sufficient. For several years this price was continued and thousands of dollars stolen from the pockets of the people by this injustice. At last the price became so patently intolerable that the Minister of Education was forced to take some steps for its reduction. His chief official therefore issued the following circular to the publishers and general public, (Session. paper, 1890, No. 1, p. 16):

"EDUCATION DEPARTMENT,
"Toronto, May 29th, 1889.

"DEAR SIRS,—I am directed by the Minister of Education to inform you that the authorized retail price for the public school drawings books on and after the 1st January next will be five cents.

"Yours truly,
"ALEX. MARLING,
"Secretary."

This was a most complete confession that the previous price was unjust. But even this promised reduction was never carried out! So much at the mercy of the publishers was Mr. Ross that he never was able to lower the price to five cents, but has continued to charge more to this very day.

But now comes in a greater outrage upon the people than before. In order to bolster up his case the Minister arranged for an "arbitration" to decide whether his books were cheap or dear. The three arbitrators chosen were respectable men, but the sittings of the commission were private, the public were not admitted, the public interest unrepresented by legal counsel or in any other way. The parties present were the Minister interested in proving that the prices were low, and the publishers, who desired also to prove that their books were too cheap, the evidence being taken in secret was of just such a nature as these interested persons chose to select, no record was kept of it, and the arbitrators, of course, had to deliver judgment on what was presented to them. They had no other choice. The proceedings, therefore, being a one-sided farce with the public unprotected and unrepresented, no wonder the report was a whitewashing of the Minister. But utterly ridiculous must have been the evidence submitted, seeing that the arbitrators' report overstepped the limit of common sense, and declared that so far from the prices being high, *several of the books were published without profit and several at an actual loss!* (Sess. Paper, 1890, No. 40, pp. 45 and 46.) As if shrewd business men as book publishers are known to be, would lose money from motives of philantrophy!

The electors will thus see in the misleading report of this bogus arbitration an insult to their intelligence, and a flagrant attempt to deceive them.

Among the books pronounced upon by the arbitration were the drawing books alluded to. The arbitrators decided that a reduction to six cents was a reasonable one. This, after the Minister's admission that five cents was enough to ask. The electors are, therefore, enabled to know to some extent how they are being swindled under the present system.

The official documents of the Province not being accessible to the general public, the record of the Mowat Government and its followers on a few of the points on which the electors are now called upon to judge, are herewith culled from the journals of the House and other official documents, and given in this shape with page and date, so that people may know they are getting the exact facts, and be enabled to form their own opinion upon them. The record might be indefinitely prolonged, but enough is given in the following pages to convince every man in the Province who will calmly consider the facts, that the Government of Mr. Mowat, instead of being "Reform," as its professions indicate, is utterly non-progressive and reactionary, and ought to be got rid of in the interest of the Province.