

"The Corruptionists."

The Patriot asks, "Who are the Corruptionists?" and has the hardihood to deny charges which no Grit member of Parliament has dared to deny.

We are unable, for want of space, to criticise all the Patriot's denials and equivocations. We direct attention to one. By one our readers may judge of all.

"That the party by which he (the Premier) is sustained has, by overwhelming evidence, given on oath before the judges of the land, been proved to be black with corruption."

The Patriot responds:

"Black with corruption, the EXAMINER declares Mr. McKenzie to be. That is a very pretty phrase, perhaps, but will the EXAMINER point to a single charge of corruption made against any member of the McKenzie Cabinet which has been proven before the 'Judges of the land.'"

The Patriot, it will be observed, distorts the charge and contents itself with denying what was not charged. But the Patriot is interested to know the name of McKenzie's supporters who have been condemned by the Judges of the land.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

- Bymer—Richmond and Wolfe; bribery by agents.
Bigger—E. Northumberland; bribery by agents.
Cameron, M. C.—S. Huron; bribery by agents.
Cook—N. Simcoe; bribery by agents.
Coupal—Napierville; bribery by agents.
Cushing (disqualified)—Argenteuil; personal bribery.
Devlin—E. Montreal; bribery by agents.
Dymond—N. York; bribery by agents.
Dumont—Kamowaska; bribery by agents.
Higinbotham—N. Wellington; bribery by agents.
Irving—Hamilton; bribery by agents.
Jordion (disqualified)—Chambly; personal bribery.
Kerr—W. Northumberland; bribery by agents.
Macdonald—Cornwall; bribery by agents.
McNab—Glengarry; bribery by agents.
Mackenzie—W. Montreal; bribery by agents.
Maclean—N. Victoria; bribery by agents.
Macdonald, J. L.—S. Renfrew; bribery by agents.
McGregor—Essex; bribery by agents.
McKay—Colchester; bribery by agents.
Murray—N. Renfrew; bribery by agents.
Norris—Lincoln; bribery by agents.
O'Donohoe—E. Toronto; bribery by agents.
Prevost—Two Mountains; bribery by agents.
Shibley—Addington; bribery by agents.
Stuart—S. Norfolk; bribery by agents.
Tremblay—Charlevoix; bribery by agents.
Wilkes—C. Toronto; bribery by agents.
Wood—Hamilton; bribery by agents.
Walker (disqualified)—London; personal bribery.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

- Barber (disqualified)—Halton; personal bribery.
Cox—W. Peterboro'; bribery by agents.
Currie—Welland; bribery by agents.
Ferris—Northumberland; bribery by agents.
Haney—Monck; bribery by agents.
Neelon (disqualified—whitewashed)—Lincoln; personal bribery.
Oliver—S. Oxford; bribery by agents.
Paxton—N. Ontario; bribery by agents.
Smith—N. Victoria; bribery by agents.

We might also remind the Patriot that M. Laflamme, Minister of Justice—charged with bribery and corruption in Jacques Cartier—was only sustained in his seat by the decision of three Judges against those of Chief Justice Richards and Judge Strong—both of whom decided against him. Laflamme escaped, like a criminal, by a disagreement of Judges.

Brown's Flour Duties.

The Monetary Times has an article on the flour duty which Mr. McKenzie's supporters tried to force upon the country. It explains:

"Both Canada and the United States ordinarily produce wheat, for example, in excess of their own wants; and both look to Europe for a market for their surplus. In that common market, they must at last, stand on common ground. But there may be reasons why Canada should consume American wheat, and why the United States should use Canadian. As a matter of fact, we believe, a good deal of American wheat is used in our lumbering districts; and it is used there because it is of a relatively low quality and price. One of the reasons why American wheat goes into consumption in the Maritime Provinces is that a cheap quality is in demand there. A duty which should compel the substitution of Canadian for American wheat in the lumbering districts and the Maritime Provinces would compel both these classes of consumers to use a dearer quality of grain than they desire to purchase. In New York, and other large cities, the superior quality of our wheat may well cause it to be in demand for consumption. By this exchange, both classes of purchasers get what they want, and no one is the worse for it. In what way is the farmer in-

jured by this exchange? In both cases he gets the best customers, because these customers get what they want."

The Monetary Times consequently agrees with Mr. Pope, that the imposition of the proposed duty would not be expedient. It, however, adds that it may be allowable if their exists a probability that it would contribute towards a revival of Reciprocity. But the question whether or not there is such a probability, it leaves open. It simply says:

"To levy duties for political reasons—as a means of forcing the Americans into reciprocity—is another matter. The use of such a weapon is allowable, if there be a probability that its use will be successful, but in no other case. Such a policy, unless it accomplished its object, would be injurious to this country, by putting a needless restriction upon foreign commerce."

Senator Howlan's Speech on the Financial Situation.

A SUCCESSION OF DEFICITS, AND HOW THEY ARE OBTAINED—INTERESTING COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS.

(From the Senate Hansard.)

CONCLUDED.

It seems to me an extraordinary fact that such a large sum has been wasted to bring immigrants to this country. I find in 1861 the population of Canada, was 3,432,000, and the annual average increase during the ten years preceding 1861 (during which time occurred a year of great depression) was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Province, Increase. Ontario, 4.37; Quebec, 2.50; Nova Scotia, 1.85; New Brunswick, 2.60; P. E. Island, 2.07.

Now, according to these figures the population of Canada in 1871 if it had the same ratio of increase, ought to have been 4,700,000, while the last census showed, it was little under 4,000,000 or an increase of one per cent. annually. Now this is an extraordinary fact. The most stagnant nation under the sun has a better record to show than that. It is rather strange that having the millions of acres of land we possess, and a large immigration into the country, the increase of our population has been so low. Look again at the decrease that took place during that period: you will find about 80,000 native Canadians left this country. It is a favorite expression in the United States with regard to the State of New Hampshire that it is a fine State to emigrate from, and if we are to judge anything from these figures, this must be an equally fine country to emigrate from. It has been estimated that the cost to the British nation of training a soldier is two hundred pounds, sterling. A Canadian, twenty-five years old, ought to represent as much as a soldier of the line does, and the hon. gentleman can calculate from this what a loss we have sustained by the emigration of 80,000 of our people to the United States. It is, therefore, for the people of Canada, and especially of the Government and this Parliament, to ascertain what are the reasons for this loss of population. It is impossible for any country to stand still, and particularly a new country like this. Is it said one cause of our lack of progress for the last three years, has been the depression. I am not going to deny that it has had a great deal to do with it. But one interest in Canada has not been depressed; I refer to agriculture. It is a well-known fact that the farming population of this country have not felt the depression that has prevailed in our cities. One would naturally conclude that this great depression in trade would necessarily lead to a reduction of the cost of collecting the taxes of this country, but which has not been the case, for the cost has gone on steadily for the last three years. Judging from the cost of collecting the revenue, there has been no depression. What is the outlook at the present time? The clouds are breaking way; the sun is beginning to shine—to use a common expression, matters have touched bottom, and a more prosperous era is beginning to dawn; that is the time when the Government should exercise wisdom in assisting the country to regain prosperity. On that point we have, at all events, got the opinions of gentlemen who are leaders of the two great parties in Parliament. Any thoughtful man must come to the conclusion when a depression has taken place in the trade and manufactures of a country, that some remedy must be found to restore, at all events, the equilibrium between the expenditure and revenue. But what is the policy of the Government? They say the country is like a sick man; all that you have to do is to let him alone and he will get well in time. I say that it is an extraordinary policy, and I contend that some step must be taken to save the country from the effects of such treatment. We find one body of gentlemen—those who hold office—are free traders, while those who are opposed to them are protectionists. I am one of those who believe you cannot have either free trade or protection in a young country like this. I believe free trade and protection, as understood in Great Britain, cannot be applied to a young country like Canada. It is out of the question to suppose that a policy produced in one country must necessarily be good for another. I don't think I shall be going far out of my way to give my hon. friend from Halifax an authority for which he must have great respect. I quote from the speech of the hon. the Premier, delivered at Sarnia last year. He said:

"When people accuse me of being a free trader, they accuse me of something that does not properly belong to the discussion of this question. We do not discuss free trade or protection at all because free trade is impossible in this country. We have to discuss a Customs system which puts free trade out of the question altogether, and, in the abstract, Sir John Macdonald is as much a free trader as I am. It is true the great party I lead contains a larger number of free traders than our opponents, though of course every rule has its exception. There are two principles of action in relation to trade which are to be considered. The one, absolute free trade; the other, absolute protection. I have always assumed that, in this country, neither of these principles is applicable to our circumstances, and, as I stated in 1874, the question is removed from the sphere of political discussion, because not even the most extreme protectionist has adopted the idea that we are to lose all our revenue for the purpose of preventing any one coming here to sell his wares."

"That is about my opinion with regard to free trade and protection in this country. It has been used as a bugbear to frighten people. I will now quote an authority who is considered a very big one on questions of political economy. I read from Lang's Political Economy:

"Political economy is not a universal science of which the principles are applicable to all men under all circumstances, and equally good and true for all nations; but every country has a political economy of its own, suited to its own physical circumstances of position on the globe, climate, soil and products, and to the habits, character and idiosyncrasy of its inhabitants, formed or modified by such political circumstances."

So I say with regard to this Dominion, it is necessary that the flagging industries of this country should be protected in times of depression like this by the Government, which all look upon as paternal. One interest, at all events—the mining interest—is prostrate. The \$12,000,000 invested in the mines of Nova Scotia are almost completely idle. We saw a few years ago the mining industries of the United States were in a prostrate condition, but they were protected and they revived. What do we find in Canada? The very coal used on the Intercolonial to heat the cars is brought from the United States.

Hon. Mr. Power—That is because we have no anthracite.
Hon. Mr. Howlan—For years we used none in the Maritime Provinces. In the time of Joseph Howe we used our own coal. The United States, so far as manufactures are concerned, is a new country, and you find them protected there. Go back to England, and you will find it was one of the strongest protectionist countries in the world, for a long period of years. After a time she became a free trade country. Why? Because she had brought her manufactures to such perfection they could compete with all the world, and, besides, she had very large commerce. The neighboring country was free trade in the early history of the colonies; but from the time it became independent, it has protected its manufactures. I was surprised to find recently that silk is now very largely manufactured in the United States. Last year 108 firms were engaged in the industry, the capital invested in it was \$14,000,000, and the value of the silks produced was very great. We have in this country, if I may be allowed to use the expression, a good milking cow, if we only milk her. Here, in the neighborhood of Ottawa, there are inexhaustible mines of the very best iron ore, yet our iron is manufactured in the United States and other countries, instead of in the Dominion. Without being either a protectionist or a free trader, I think the industries of this country could be aided by adjusting the tariff to foster them. After all, that is what is required of the Government. What we want is, not free trade or protection, but a policy that will bring about the best results in developing our industries without interfering with the revenue. Our coal interests possess more importance than the mere intrinsic value of the coal produced. In the Legislature of Massachusetts there is a picture of a codfish over the Speaker's chair, to show what was the foundation of the early prosperity of that colony. Amsterdam is built on herring bones. So it is with our coal interest—it is a school of industry. Like the fisheries of the Gulf, it is training school for men. It is the strongest arm which assists the body politic in working out the destinies of the country through its own resources. In 1876 there were 275,748 tons of coal mined in Nova Scotia, and distributed as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Province, Tons. Ontario, 84,778; New Brunswick, 6,800; Prince Edward Island, 40,000; Nova Scotia, 119,000; Newfoundland, 1,868; United States, 18,987.

Now, it will be seen that the little Province of Prince Edward Island consumed more of the product of the mines of the Maritime Provinces than did the United States. Those who have been acquainted with that trade will remember the time when 200 sail of vessels were continually engaged in emptying coal between the colonies and the United States. This is entirely done away with now, and while the Government think nothing of spending \$280,000 on the Fort Francis Lock, which they acknowledge to be a blunder, they refuse to foster this important industry. If the money they have thrown away on that work had been used to promote the coal trade of Nova Scotia, the country would have received some substantial return for it. I know it will be said, "You cannot put a duty of 30 cents per ton on coal, because the people of Ontario will demand a similar duty on flour." Let us see how the account stands. In 1855-6 Nova Scotia imported from the old Province of Canada \$504,000 worth; in 1870 Nova Scotia consumed \$1,303,000 worth of the products of Ontario and Quebec. In return, Ontario and Quebec consumed only 84,000 tons of Nova Scotia coal. I would like to call attention to a statement of the trade between this country and Great Britain, to show where the channels of trade are. In 1872-3 the imports from Great Britain were \$32,000,000; in 1876-7 they had fallen to \$40,000,000, showing a decrease of \$22,000,000. Now, let us look at the trade between this country and the United States. In 1872-3 we imported from the United States \$35,000,000, in 1876-7, \$51,000,000, showing an increase of \$16,000,000. And while our imports from that country have been increasing, our exports to them have been diminishing, showing clearly there is something materially wrong so far as the mercantile and internal national interests of this country are concerned. If we are go-

ing to build up a nation here, we must take a national way of doing it. It is no use finding fault with the arrangements made with British Columbia. We must carry them into effect, and do more than send a handful of troops to the North-West to keep the Indians in check, and generally pursue a progressive policy. If other Provinces are treated as British Columbia has been, how long will the Confederation last? I say it is necessary in the interests of this country that the Pacific Railway should be built. We owe it to ourselves to construct it. We condemn the United States for delaying the payment of the fisheries award, though I believe, and I have always contended, when the smoke passes away they will pay over the money, and I take this opportunity to compliment the Government on its conduct of that case. It would be disgraceful if they did not; but equally disgraceful would it be to Canada if we did not carry out the contract with British Columbia to build the Pacific Railway. It is thought that the Province of Newfoundland will by-and-by come into Confederation, but I can tell hon. gentlemen, from a conversation I had with a leading man in that colony, I know that they are watching to see whether Canada will keep faith with British Columbia, and the disposition that has been shown to repudiate that agreement has weakened the hands of the Union party in Newfoundland. So I say with regard to the millions of acres of fertile land lying to the west of us; we should fill them with settlers, and to do so we must establish manufactures and develop the resources of our country. I am strongly convinced no plan has yet been suggested for the building of the Pacific Railway better than that of Sir John A. McDonald and his associates, unless the Imperial Government do, as in the case of the Intercolonial Railway, guarantee our bonds. A young nation is like a young man. It must be assisted until it reaches maturity. I say it is our interest to see the Pacific Railway built and the North-West opened up. By that means we can convert our deficits into surpluses and look forward to prosperity. That is better than waiting till the incidents and accidents of trade change the revenue so as to cover the expenditure. I was amused by the extraordinary statement of my hon. friend from Halifax about the purchase of steel rails—that they were purchased for the purpose of supplying the public railways of the Dominion. There are some things hard to believe, but which one would rather believe than dispute. Of all the extraordinary things ever heard in Parliament, it is that the Government should be congratulated on their foresight and forethought for buying rails and laying them on the railways two or three years before their time. How any man can so far impose upon himself as to suppose that any man of intelligence would credit such a statement, is incomprehensible to me. In making such a statement and going back to 1858 to look for a parallel for the present condition of affairs, the hon. gentleman seemed to forget that the country is older and should be wiser now than twenty years ago. I remember when D'Arcy McGee was taunted with having been a rebel at the age of 25, he replied, "I was a rebel at 25, but I am a loyal man at 40, and the man who is not, is simply a fool." Every man and every nation should gain wisdom by experience. With regard to the item of Weights and Measures, it will be remembered in the struggle which took place in Halifax a few months ago, when the Minister of Militia was elected, he himself on the platform, admitted the Weights and Measures Act was a blunder, and not only did he condemn it there, but if hon. gentlemen will take up the Hansard of last year they will find a remarkably clear exposition of the whole matter by him. If that is not sufficient, let the hon. Secretary of State take up the Montreal and Toronto papers, and they will find that the wing measures of one city are being sent to the other, and why? Because the act is so elastic that what may be good for one portion of the Dominion is not suitable for another. I say this law is one of the most intolerable humbugs ever placed on the statute books of any country. I said so last year and I say so now, and I believe it is the opinion of seven eighths of the merchants of this country. The Government defend themselves by saying they did not pass the Act. Are we always to be told that whenever they do anything deserving of censure, that their predecessors did something similar, and, therefore, they are not to be held responsible? If that is the case, they had better stay at home and let somebody hunt up the antecedents of those who preceded them. I am one of those who believe that every Government necessarily makes mistakes, and I believe further that the Government that has the best opposition is always the best for the country. I would say in conclusion, that the thanks of the House and of the country are due to the hon. gentleman who has so ably opened up this question of the finances of the country, who has so intelligently put it before the country, and who has not been afraid, from his place in Parliament, to express his views and sustain them by facts and figures which have not been controverted.

NOTICE

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Charlottetown, April 16, 1878—2 a w for 3 w & sat

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Charlottetown, April 25—wky 3i

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H. JAS. PALMER, J. WELL, McLEOD, Chairmen.

April 12, 78—pat 3 law ar + ent

CHALLENGE.

SEEING in the Summerside Press that certain gentlemen of that town claim to be the CHAMPION SINGERS, I now hereby CHALLENGE ANY PERSON in the Province, including Moncton, to sing in the vernacular, including "Cabar, Fiddler," in the vernacular, including "Cabar, Fiddler," in the vernacular. Competent and mutual judges to be appointed. Apply at the office of this paper.

April 24, 1878—2i

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