

their policy will confer on the country. When you come to analyze their statements and promises you find they will not bear the construction placed upon them, that the country has been deceived, and that it has been led to expect greater advantages from this policy than it actually receives. It is a fair specimen of the extravagant assertion and extravagant promises made by the advocates of this policy, as to the advantages which the country is to realize from the adoption of the policy which they propose.

Mr. McLELAN. The specimen which the hon. gentleman has given us is just a fair one of the course which they have pursued all through, since this policy has been started. He makes the calculation that 1,500 men will produce all the pig iron required in this country. I remember what 500 men can produce; but the employment of 500 men is a trifling matter, he will say. The hon. gentleman forgets that, in the manufacture and production of pig iron, other industries depend upon it, and will be enlarged, as stated by the hon. Finance Minister. The Londonderry works have produced 1,500 tons during the past year; and the industries connected with it, and the works depending upon it, and which are in operation there, have employed at least 1,100 men; and their disbursements during the last year, when they produced 1,500 tons of pig iron, have been over \$500,000 to the labor of the country. Some hon. gentlemen have referred to the fact that, in their district, the markets were improved; and I say that, in the neighborhood of this industry, the Londonderry furnaces, one of the best markets for agricultural produce in the Province of Nova Scotia is to be found. The men there employed receive high wages; and they must have the best of everything that the farmers can produce, and they pay for it the best prices, which is one of the advantages realized. I remember that the hon. gentleman made the same calculation with respect to the sugar industry; that a few men would produce—or wash as they call it—all the sugar required in the Dominion of Canada; and he took the ground that it would be better for the people of this country to place these men on the pension list and pay them off; so they would go on with one industry after another until they would wipe out every industry we have, and have foreigners produce these articles, putting our workingmen on the pension list. The hon. member for West Durham paid me the compliment of calling me the representative of the Londonderry Iron Works here. I take it as a compliment that he should call me the representative of one of the greatest industries in the Dominion of Canada—an industry which, as I said before, has employed 1,100 men during the past year, when it only produced half of what it will produce in the coming year, and disbursed for labor over \$500,000—I say it is a compliment, and I feel a pride in representing one of the industries of our own country; but I should be ashamed, if I misrepresented that industry in this House, or elsewhere, and declared that the products and manufactures of this industry were inferior to those manufactured in the neighboring country. I should be ashamed, too, if I were the representative of American industries in this House, and if I endeavored to persuade the people of Canada that it were better to let our own people go idle, and employ the manufacturers of the United States and other countries in furnishing the goods required by our people. The hon. member from North Norfolk speaks of the increased taxation under the proposition, and under the policy propounded by the hon. Finance Minister this Session; but there is no increased taxation placed on the country. It was never supposed, it was never intended, and the country never supposed for a moment, that the Tariff of last year would be unchangeable, no matter what the verdict of the people would be; that there is no increased taxation on this article or in the policy brought down this Session. I can tell the hon. gentleman what would bring increased

Mr. CHARLTON.

taxation: to carry out his policy, and to have the people of this country idle. There is no greater taxation that can be placed on a country, than to have idleness among the people, and the employed. You give the people of a country, and the laboring men of a country, employment, and pay them good wages, as is the case at the London Iron Works—and I trust that many more men will be employed in the iron industries which will be developed under this system—and you remove taxation from that country practically. The greatest taxation which you can place on a country is to let the laboring class go idle.

Mr. WRIGHT. On behalf of the inhabitants of the great country which I have the honor to represent, I beg to thank the hon. the Finance Minister for introducing these resolutions. I was among the forty gentlemen who urged upon the Government the propriety of protecting this great iron industry. As the hon. Finance Minister has told us, he could then give us no promise in that direction, but he promised to consider the matter. He has considered the matter, and we have the result of that consideration here to-day. I entirely disagree with my hon. friend from North Norfolk with regard to the effect which this will have upon our country and upon our population. I knew that in my own county it will give employment to thousands. Within five miles of the very place where we now sit we have immense deposits of the richest iron ore, and every possible facilities for manufacturing it; and I can say myself, that many gentlemen have passed my house, and have come to it, since this motion was spoken of, with the view of investigating into and examining our iron mines in that region; and I have no doubt that they will make a move in the direction of the erection of furnaces; and a great industry in that way will be developed, benefiting our people immensely, and affording a local market, while additional benefits will be conferred on our people. I would say another word with regard to this policy: It will have a special effect on the people of the Province of Quebec, which has great facilities for manufacturing immense deposits of iron ore, valuable water powers, and an intelligent, docile, and an industrious people; and I think, moreover, that it will have a most beneficial effect on every great interest in our country. In my own county, as I have said, within five miles of this place, we have millions of tons of iron ore, some of which have been taken away; and regret to see it passing by our door and taken to the United States. The effect of this policy will be to build up our own furnaces, to create a market for our produce, and to advance the great iron industries in our midst; therefore I have no hesitation in heartily endorsing, as I do, this policy, and, as one of the members of this House, and also on behalf of the 50,000 people whom I represent, in thanking the hon. Minister for introducing these resolutions.

Mr. VALIN. I am surprised to see so lengthy a discussion, which—as these debates always do—amounts to the same thing. We are always accused of taxing the people, and principally in connection with the proposition of the hon. Finance Minister to give a bounty of \$1.50 to the pig iron industry; but we say that it will give employment to a great many of our people. With regard to coal, I am astonished that no representative from the Lower Provinces has risen to state what they should know better than I do, and that is this: Since the National Policy has been in operation, we have developed the coal mines of those Provinces. Before this policy come into force, very few steamers were engaged in carrying this coal to our ports; but since its inauguration this state of affairs has been changed. Last year no less than twenty steamers were engaged in carrying coal from Sydney and Pictou to Montreal direct. What an immense quantity of coal was last year brought into the upper Provinces from those