

tration of the railways. When my hon. friend asks for a grant of \$200,000 for the operation of the Canadian Pacific Railway, he does it in the full confidence that all that mismanagement and extravagance is to be followed by economy, which he believes, and I believe, will return every dollar into the Public Treasury. The additional amount asked for Indians is \$165,000; interest on the Public Debt, \$400,000; sinking fund, \$100,000. Then there is the Census, \$200,000 more, which the hon. gentleman will admit that we cannot avoid, and which will include not only those quadrupeds which he intimated sat on this side of the House, who support the Ministry, but a longer-eared class of quadrupeds who are equally accommodating to the hon. gentleman—I will not say in this House, but I think that if there is anybody outside the House who listened with pleasure to the diatribes he gave utterance to, he must have longer ears than the quadrupeds who are said to be so compliant in the support of the Government. The steamer to Brazil, \$50,000. That gives us \$1,115,000, and swells this estimate to less than a million of what the hon. gentleman asked Parliament to give him in 1874. Add to that the portion of the Grand Trunk Railway that is now operated as part of the Intercolonial, \$250,000, because it is a mere matter of account, and you have \$1,365,000 of this Estimate which the hon. gentleman denounces as so extravagant. I need not, I think, take up much of the time of the House in discussing the hon. gentleman's claim to economy or financial skill. I believe I am accused in certain quarters of envying very much the great talents of my hon. friend the Minister of Finance. I believe there are some people in this country, perhaps on the other side of the House, who venture to insinuate that I am excessively jealous of the position in this House of my hon. friend. I would be unworthy of the position I occupy in this House and in the judgment of the country, of which for twenty-five long years I have had such satisfactory and conclusive evidence, if I were not willing to say here, as I am prepared to say everywhere, that the people of Canada, in my opinion, owe a debt of gratitude to the present Minister of Finance, for the painstaking manner in which he has devoted himself to the con-

sideration of the question of the Tariff problem, upon a successful solution of which rests the question of the life or death of the country. The hon. gentleman says that my hon. friend has gone about this country like a commercial traveller. It would have been in the interest of Canada, perhaps, if the hon. gentleman had adopted the same course, and instead of driving away with contumely men, however high their position in the commercial or industrial world, who wished to offer him advice, and wrapping himself up in that immaculate robe of perfection which with so much magniloquence he loves to assume, he had ventured to place himself in communication with the intelligent men of this country who are engaged in sustaining and developing its interests and industries. If I ever felt I should like to stand in my hon. friend's shoes it is to-night. And why? Because he occupies the proud vantage-ground of being able to say in the presence of conclusive testimony that, instead of having the ruinous, discreditable record the hon. gentlemen opposite have been fond of predicting, he has vindicated the position he occupied when twelve months ago he asked and obtained the confidence of the House in the fiscal policy he placed before it. My hon. friend rightly said that last year the fundamental objection taken to his fiscal policy by the hon. gentlemen opposite was that he would lose revenue instead of obtaining it. They said that the trade of the country was depressed, and said: "If you believe you can improve it by increasing taxation you are labouring under a mad delusion, the result of which can only be widespread disaster from one end of the country to the other." To-night my hon. friend has been able to come down with the evidence from the public records of the country, and show that his expectations with reference to the effect of the Tariff upon the revenue have been abundantly sustained and that issue placed beyond doubt in the mind of every person, except that of the hon. member for Centre Huron (Sir Richard J. Cartwright). Is there a man who will say, in the face of an intelligent Canadian public, that prosperity is not returning to the country? No man could venture that statement without being met by indignant repudiation and denial by everyone who has been in a position