

in which their capital is largely embarked, together with the great disaster to which I have referred, deranged the business and trade of the Province; and a good deal of depression, a good deal of suffering, has followed in its wake. It has been attempted to be shown that the bankruptcies of that province have exceeded those of any other province, and I was surprised to find the attempt made to attribute these bankruptcies to the operation of this Tariff. I will say here, and I think without fear of contradiction, that there are not more than two cities in the Dominion, taking into consideration population and the amount of business done, that have had fewer failures and fewer bankruptcies than the city of St. John. The hon. member for Gloucester (Mr. Anglin) rose the other night, in anticipation of this discussion, and, in speaking of the condition of St. John, he made a statement which was true, but of a misleading character. He said that in 1877 there were more men employed in the city of St. John than there are to-day; that they were receiving larger wages than then they are to-day. Now, I agree with the hon. gentleman that it is the fact, but he should have gone on to say that the great fire took place in 1877, that two-thirds of the city was destroyed, that thousands of mechanics and labourers came to that city to secure employment in the work of restoration, and that increased wages was the result to the labourer and mechanical like; and now, when the city has been rebuilt, is it to be wondered at that thousands who came into the city to re-build it are leaving it, that wages are not so high as then, that there are not so many men engaged in the manufacture of doors and sashes and bricks, that there are not so many foundrymen at work as there were then. I say, is it surprising that such is the case? The hon. gentleman stated the facts truly, but his conclusions were entirely erroneous, because he had endeavoured to impress on the House and the country that the effect of the National Policy had been to bring wages down to their present rates. Let me further say with reference to the city of St. John and the Province of New Brunswick. The leader of the Opposition, the other day, and I can understand his object, said there was but little probability of manufacturing industries springing up in that

Province, and of St. John becoming a manufacturing centre; and he said that he always expected that in Nova Scotia, where they had coal and iron, they would be able to have large manufacturing industries, but what could New Brunswick expect? I assert that there is no portion of the Dominion of Canada which, in proportion to its population, has as large a number of its inhabitants engaged in manufactures as has the city of St. John. Manufacturing enterprises have been going on in that Province for a quarter of a century, increasing year by year, and extending, so that down to 1874, when these enterprises were at their height, 8,000 people in that city alone were employed in manufacturing industries. The hon. gentleman said he was not surprised that I should have been met with such limited cordiality when recently visiting that city. Was it limited? We had two dinners there on that occasion—the hotels we have there at present are not large enough to give dinners, to two hundred people at once. And I venture to say, further, that we had as many at the two dinners as the hon. gentleman had when he visited St. John as Premier of Canada. Let me give additional evidence of the ability of the people of that Province to carry on successfully manufacturing industries. I may tell this House that nearly every contract let since the new Tariff came into operation, for the construction of locomotives, snow-ploughs, cars, and turn-tables for the Intercolonial and Pacific Railways has gone, with the exception of three locomotives and two cars, to the Province of New Brunswick, and on lowest tender. When I state further, that though the sash and door manufacturers and carriage makers are not doing what they did in 1874, boot and shoe manufactories are in successful operation; machinists are freely employed; the cotton manufactory there has doubled its capacity within the last six months, and is preparing to quadruple it. And since this policy was adopted by the House of Commons a lock and brass factory has been started in Moncton, with a subscribed capital of \$200,000, of which \$66,000 has been paid up; that arrangements are being made for the establishment of a sugar refinery in the same place, the necessary capital having been subscribed; that re-