

importance to the farmer to-day, when he is farming upon an advanced system as we have got to do as are the implements the duty on which was reduced in 1894.

Mr. CLANCY. Will the hon. gentleman say what the imports of these articles amount to ?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE (Mr. Fielding). Under a 35 per cent tariff, they could not have been much.

Mr. CLANCY. They were all made in Canada.

Mr. McMILLAN. No ; I myself have got a tread-mill and a straw-cutter that I had to get from the United States and pay freight and duty on because I could not get them to suit me made here. Whether these are made in the country or not, the effect of this reduction is to reduce the price to the farmer and that is what we believe should have been done long ago.

Then I was amused when my hon. friend (Mr. Clancy) got up and asked us what would be the result if the United States and other countries should take advantage of this preferential tariff in the same manner as England did. I would answer him with the speech of the hon. member for East Grey (Mr. Sproule) who dwelt upon the effect of this reduction of duty upon our trade with the United States. He evidently had in his mind the idea that this new tariff brought us a step nearer to reciprocity with the United States. These hon. gentlemen think these things, but they try to conceal them from the people. I see my hon. friend (Mr. Davin) smile. He told us that the farmers get no benefit from this tariff. He spoke out of the fullness of his ignorance, trying to mislead the people whom he represents. No doubt he counts on the gullibility of those who sent him here as their representative. In this speech of the hon. member for East Grey (Mr. Sproule), there is a large list of goods which he fears will be imported into Canada from the United States under this tariff. This will accomplish much what Sir John Macdonald told us the National Policy was to do. One of the great reasons for adopting the National Policy was to secure reciprocity with the United States. I believe the hon. leader of the Opposition (Sir Charles Tupper) told us that it would compel the Government of the United States, within few years to give us reciprocity. But it was like a good many other of the prophecies made by the hon. gentleman. We have been told of late that for a Government to take the reins of power upon false promises was one of the worst things that could happen to a country. If ever a Government assumed office under false promises, it was the Government that came in in 1878. One of the promises made by the present leader of the Opposition on behalf of that Government was that the country should be run upon a smaller expenditure than was deemed neces-

sary by the Government of the late Alexander Mackenzie, that they had run the country upon a smaller expenditure before and were prepared to do it in the future. We were told also that for the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway not one cent was to be taken out of the public treasury permanently ; all the money was to be returned. By 1890 we were to have a million population in the North-west and 300,000,000 of bushels of wheat was to be exported out of that country. These were promises that were never fulfilled. Again we were promised that the surplus products of the farm were to be consumed here in Canada, even our butter and eggs and small fruit. This was to be accomplished by the great increase in the industries of the country. Has that increase taken place ? When the duty was put up on iron we were told that we should have iron furnaces at Weller's Bay, Toronto, Kingston and elsewhere and an increase of 20,000 in the number of our workmen, and if they went on and manufactured rails and steel billets and hardware and other things, that additional population would be increased three-fold, making 300,000 of a population dependent on our iron industries. And the fact is that we have one little iron furnace in Hamilton, and that is not due to the National Policy. We were told that the putting on of the iron duty would represent a burden of \$500,000 imposed upon the people, but it was to be wiped out by taking the duty off coal. All these things proved delusive, and I am astonished to find hon. gentlemen decrying the present Government on the ground of unfulfilled promises. I feel and know that those who occupied seats upon the Treasury benches in the late Government recognized in their inmost souls that the Government that rules Canada to-day are fulfilling as rapidly as possible the promises they have made to the farmers, the manufacturers, and the people of this country. I have had communications from western portions of Ontario that all classes are accepting this as one of the brightest days in the history of Canada for the last twenty years. And let me repeat that this is the tariff of the Minister of Finance and not the tariff of the Manufacturers' Association. I am sure the late Finance Minister will be happy to hear the large amount of assistance that he got in framing the last tariff, and the way the flaming sword was held up over his head at the time that the tariff was before the House. Let me read from the annual report of the Manufacturers' Association, so that the fact cannot be gainsaid that the Manufacturers' Association influenced the Government of this country in framing the tariff of 1894 :

In accordance with the usage of this association, previous to your last meeting the tariff committee of the association, in the discharge of their duty, entered upon a close and careful examination of all matters brought before it by members of the association relating to the tariff.