

Brant speaks—we can always hear him distinctly and understand perfectly well what he says, and are consequently able to answer his remarks. But we are not so fortunate when the hon. member for the city of St. John (Mr. Burpee) speaks. For myself I was unable to hear many of his statements, and, therefore, am not prepared to answer him until I will have read them in the *Hansard*. There is something very remarkable in the course taken by the hon. gentlemen opposite on this question of protection. Resolutions have been offered in the past declaring emphatically that this policy is taxing the people unnecessarily for the benefit of the manufacturers; but to-night we have the hon. member for the city and county of St. John strongly imbued with the principles of the National Policy, and therefore he was no doubt the proper person to move a resolution of this kind to show that the manufacturers are damaged by this policy instead of being benefited by it. That is the proposition submitted to this House, and the hon. member and those who think with him will stand up here and denounce the Government for not having given sufficient protection to the industries to which he refers. These are the Free Trade gentlemen who are now coming out and declaring that we are recreant in the interest of that industry in not imposing more duty upon it.

Mr. PATERSON. No; it is to take the duties off instead of putting them on.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. Yes, and for the purpose, he says, of giving protection to the manufacturers. One word with reference to the statements of the hon. member for Brant. We have often heard these statements before from him, and it may be well to say a word with reference to the absurdity of his position when he says that the diminution of the exports of manufactured articles indicate the failure of the National Policy. Nothing could be more absurd; and why? I will give you an illustration. After he had made his speech in the House last Session, calling attention to this fact and declaring it was an evidence of the failure of the National Policy, a gentleman in this Dominion who had been for many years engaged in the manufacture of boots and shoes, said to me: "How absurd the statement of the hon. member on that subject. I recollect," he said, "crossing the Atlantic with you in a steamer two years since, when we were obliged to go to the British market for the coarser description of boots and shoes that we are manufacturing in the Dominion to-day. Now, my position is such that I have a grand market at home; I cannot supply even all the orders I have, and though I am under contract to send to England a certain quantity of goods, I am bound to supply them; but," he said, "I am in a position to-day to diminish that export because I have a profitable home market, and can give increased employment to the people, with better wages, and do a better business than before." This is one illustration of the effect of the National Policy. It has given employment in the home market for our people and makes it unnecessary for them to go abroad to sell without profit.

Mr. PATERSON. Did he tell you how many he had exported?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. Well, we know it is a pretty large amount that they exported during this year, and he is going on with his contract to this day. A word with reference to the alleged failure of the National Policy with regard to the encouragement of the iron industry. He says I prophesied great things. I did prophesy great things; and let me tell him here that while the manufacture of iron has not sprung up with as great rapidity as other industries, there are reasons for it. In the first place you may start a manufactory for clothing, for instance, with a capital of \$40,000, and various other industries with a capital of from \$50,000 to \$100,000; but when you come to

Sir LEONARD TILLEY.

the iron industry you require a large capital. In Londonderry, something over \$2,000,000 have been invested, though perhaps, some of it has not been judiciously expended. We know that men, when they invest their money in an industry of that kind, want to be assured of the permanency of the policy of the Government. Within a twelvemonth I have been visited by several gentlemen representing a large amount of capital in the United States—one of them representing \$2,000,000 capital, another \$5,000,000—who came to Ottawa to consult me with reference to the establishment of this industry here. Their statement was this: "If we were sure that this policy would be permanent we would invest our capital, but we are in doubt." I asked him why he was in doubt. "Well," he said, "the paper that is read most in Canada is the *Toronto Globe*, and that paper tells us when the people give their judgment on this question again they will reverse it, and, therefore, we are in doubt as to the permanency of this policy."

Sir ALBERT J. SMITH. And the wisdom of it.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. We have no doubt about the wisdom of it, neither had he; he wanted to know about the permanency. This was my answer: "Sir, in my judgment you may invest your capital without a doubt. In the election of 1878, the people spoke out emphatically on the subject, and since then out of thirty constituencies that were opened, we have carried all but two, and to-day our majority is eight more in Parliament, as a result of these declarations than it was in 1878; and I said such a thing is scarcely to be known in the history of our country, indicating as clearly as anything can what the verdict of the people will be when they again pronounce with reference to this policy. This very day, all over the Dominion, people are going on and establishing new industries. They are many American capitalists who are interested in the Dominion; and I will guarantee the time is not far distant when we shall see those iron industries established. Has nothing been done already? You would think that not one pound of iron more has been produced, and that no steps have been taken for producing it; but what is the fact? There are two furnaces instead of one being constructed at Londonderry, and from that date the construction will be doubled. Those furnaces would have been in operation before this had it not been for an unfortunate accident which happened in one of the mines from which the Company obtained coal with which to make coke. In New Brunswick, where we had industries in operation, it was thought that the whole trade would fall into decay. Some Americans came in, and owing to the National Policy they established the manufacturing of charcoal-iron. A company has been established in Montreal for the manufacture of charcoal-iron, and they have asked the Government either to allow to import crude petroleum at a low rate of duty from the United States, or to make some arrangement for petroleum produced in this country, because it is intended to manufacture iron with petroleum as well. Look at the movements that are taking place in Belleville and in the Ottawa Valley, and I do not doubt that it only requires the verdict of the people to introduce and bring into this country an immense amount of capital that is in abeyance, and is only so because hon. gentleman opposite have not in many cases declared their sentiments on the subject. I may quote a speech made by the hon. member for North Norfolk (Mr. Charlton) in order to show that hon. gentlemen opposite should be with us on this iron question. Referring to the iron industry in the United States the hon. gentleman said when the protective duty was imposed, iron manufactories were established, and in a short time the price of iron was brought down several dollars per ton and is now sold cheaper than British manufacturers can do in this market. If the hon. gentleman would speak