

should be applied to our position in connection with that great country, which gave me birth, and of which I shall always speak with affection and respect, and which I hope I may always regard with admiration. It is true I can see its faults, but it has virtues which I understand even more clearly, and I say we should go on as if we were proceeding in parallel lines and no matter how close those lines may approach they never should meet. There may be different opinions in respect to the matters to which I have referred here, but one thing is certain, viz: that we by some great change are now in a position where the workingman instead of seeking employment finds employment seeking him, where the industries of Canada have been developed in a most remarkable degree, and where every man finds a good day's wage for a good day's work; where in fine, as is shown by the increase in the savings of our people, prosperity instead of disaster has come home to every laboring man. This is the foundation of the prosperity of Canada, and I hope it may long remain so. There is no doubt as to the existence of great difference of opinion about the manner in which the industries of the country should be protected, many gentlemen going so far as to say that all manufacturing centres of population are objectionable, and that we should depend almost entirely upon the tillage of the soil. Now, while it is conceded all over the world that the true basis of prosperity is agriculture, and while it is acknowledged that without prosperity in that direction there can be no prosperity elsewhere, it must be remembered that we are not all farmers, and that many have other gifts—that there is great range for industrial enterprises, and for inventive talent, which require that there should be other industries developed in a country than those of agriculture. The example of the south is a pertinent one: the south, failed largely because it depended entirely upon agriculture, and it has been an illustration of the fact that no country ever became permanently great which depended upon agriculture alone. Not that I wish to be understood as in any way decrying the great industry by which we mainly thrive and prosper, but I say that whatever may be the difference of opinion in regard to the policy which has been adopted, one thing is certain,

that we are now—and I trust we may long be—in a state of advancement and prosperity. How or where we shall look for the true reason for that prosperity I will not discuss. First, however, I know this, that it comes from that good Providence to whom we must all look up, and which is the primary source of all we possess, and of all we enjoy. Next, I think it may be attributed to the fact that no country is blest with a more thriving, industrious and enterprising set of men, or more thrifty and deserving women, than the Dominion of Canada. But I think after we have made these acknowledgements, that some little credit will be left to those who took Canada out of her slough of despond, by adopting a policy which has been so successful in giving Canada to the Canadians as far as it could be given, and in creating a demand for our own industries here, making a home market and giving employment to those who had been compelled by lack of the kind of employment they desired, to seek it elsewhere. I trust, however much gentlemen who have listened to me may differ from the views which I have expressed, that we should all consider it is our duty to unite in sustaining a system which, so far, has conducted I think conclusively and undeniably to the advantage of this great Dominion of ours—which, I hope, may go on with increasing prosperity to the end of time.

HON. MR. SCOTT—So long as the hon. gentleman who has just taken his seat confined his observations to speaking of the growth and prosperity, the increased exports and imports of the Dominion, in well-rounded sentences, varied by extracts from blue books, it was not necessary that any comment should be made upon his remarks, but he could not let the opportunity pass without having a fling at the late Government, and in so doing he has placed himself in the position of making statements which were not in harmony with the facts. I do not propose to criticize all the quotations the hon. gentleman made from the blue books, though I know he was wrong. I do not suppose he made the statements advisedly, I have no doubt they were made without full knowledge of the facts; but the hon. gentleman speaking of the importations, gave us his impression of how they were