

Mr. Killam said that a large proportion of the Nova Scotia people, compelled to purchase provisions from abroad, would now be called upon to submit to a taxation upon necessaries which had never been imposed on them before. He thought that they should at least have breadstuffs free, unless which was permitted Nova Scotia would not be satisfied, and would refuse to bear the oppressive burden of such novel imposition. It had been said that the Imperial Parliament would turn a cold shoulder to any appeal that they might make, but he trusted in the fairness of the English people, and could not believe that such would be their reception. He was surprised to hear gentlemen from Western Canada expressing a fear of the competition of American flour, and for his part believed that protection was a false and weak policy, and took his stand on the broad principles of absolutely unfettered trade.

Mr. Beatty said free trade was very well in theory, but they could not have it without coming to the principle of direct taxation. Free trade has been advocated from various causes, but it was generally the case when a free trader became a manufacturer, he was a protectionist. When they had free trade with the United States the Maritime Provinces did not get the benefit of the excellent wheat of Canada, but it was mixed with the inferior wheat of the United States before being exported. Now we will have a direct trade with the Lower Provinces. There must be no division amongst us. Old things have passed away, and we are now standing upon a new constitution. There will be a direct trade between the Provinces. Then New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, instead of eating inferior bread, grown from inferior wheat, will get bread which has some nutriment in it, which will enable them to do more work than formerly. The revenue had to be raised to pay expenses; but we should see in the future that our expenditure did not exceed our earnings. He hoped they would never have class legislation; but they should all work shoulder to shoulder to make this country what it will be, one great Dominion, not to be exceeded in prosperity or wealth.

Mr. Magill took exception to the sugar duties as being likely to interrupt our trade with the West Indies and South America, with which it was now more than ever our duty to cultivate intercourse and reciprocity when the United States had, as it were, thrown a Chinese wall round their territories. Such protection, however excusable for inter-

ests affording extensive employment of labour, could not be defended where existing merely for the advantage of two Sugar Refineries of Montreal. Montreal appeared to be altogether unduly favoured. A Hamilton merchant had recently written to him that gum—an article used largely in the manufacture of tobacco—had been at that port subjected to a duty of fifteen per cent, which made it impossible for manufacturers there to compete advantageously with Montreal, where, upon subsequent enquiry, he had ascertained that gum was being entered duty free (hear, hear.) Upon his representation of the facts he received assurance that in future the same charges would be made everywhere. He desired to see the British scale of duties enacted here. In England the duties on fine qualities of sugar were higher, and on coarse qualities lower, than in Canada, where they had been arranged to serve the interests of the refining monopolies of Montreal, and to inflict injury on all Western Canada, and especially to the city which he represented (Hamilton), which was subjected to still further injustice in being compelled to pay a double canal toll on all its exports to America. Adverting to the expressions of Nova Scotian discontent, he agreed in the sentiment of a former President of the United States, that "Union must and shall be preserved"—upon the principle of equal justice to all. (Applause).

Mr. Coffin protested against the duty on flour, meal and pork, and thought it would cause a great deal of dissatisfaction in Nova Scotia, which could not be overcome.

AFTER RECESS

Mr. Harrison said he thought, as a general principle, excise duties should be made as low as possible, so as not to cripple our domestic industry. The true policy of the Dominion was to encourage the means of employing our labour at home, so that we should be as little as possible dependent for our necessaries, or even luxuries, on foreign labour. We should not have reference merely to one of the great branches of national industry, agriculture, commerce, and manufactures, but should care for all of them as inseparable one from the other. Commerce stimulates manufactures, manufacturers stimulate agricultural production, and agriculture sustains both. Free trade was not a true principle, as applicable to all countries. England did not adopt free trade till its manufactures had the command of the world; and, to say that what was good for England