

by the speech of His Royal Highness. With respect to His Royal Highness' travels over the country, I think every one must be struck with the evident devotion to duty which has influenced His Royal Highness to sacrifice his own ease and devote practically all of the recess of parliament to visiting the whole length and breadth of this country. We know that Englishmen have the reputation of being more influenced by a sense of duty than almost any other people in the world, and I think that His Royal Highness possesses that quality in the very highest degree. I dare say some of you gentlemen are not old enough to remember that the Duke of Connaught was here when he was quite a young man. He was in the garrison in Montreal, and at that time he visited the lower provinces as well as various places in Ontario and Quebec. It was quite a pleasure to the people and places that he had visited forty odd years ago to find that he had still fresh in his memory the recollections of the reception he had got and the things he had seen and enjoyed. One may make this observation about the travels of His Royal Highness through the country, that no matter where he went he won golden opinions from all sorts of people. Hon. gentlemen who have read the little speeches made by His Royal Highness must have been struck by the remarkable wisdom and common sense which he contrived to couch in a very few words indeed, setting an example to our Canadian public men in that respect that I trust they will follow.

I do not propose to say anything on the next four or five paragraphs of the speech, because they simply announce that the policy of the present administration is to continue the policy of their predecessors. As long as they continue to do that they will be doing right, and I think that the experience of office has taught them; to use a cry which was very much employed during the election last year to let well enough alone. Hon. gentlemen will remember that last year a measure was brought into this House for the purpose of creating a tariff commission. There is no reference to the Tariff Commission in the address this year, because I think the hon. gentlemen who conduct the government have found that things are going so well that no change

Hon. Mr. POWER.

whatever is needed. That fact alone goes a long way to justify the action of the Senate last year in dealing with that measure as they did.

This picture of prosperity which is set forth in the speech from the Throne brings back to the minds of some of the older men the gloomy picture which presented itself to the hon. leader of the opposition in 1897. When the tariff was introduced into the House of Commons that year Sir Charles Tupper felt that the country was going to be ruined by it, and he said he heard the melancholy wail of the manufacturers of Canada who were to be ruined by that iniquitous tariff; and now we have the successors of the hon. gentleman congratulating the country on the happy results of the operation of that tariff which was going to ruin the country in 1897.

With respect to the immigration into the country, this government have been wise enough to continue the policy of their predecessors, but there is a point to which I think in the past sufficient attention has not been given. In the United States, in the opening up of Minnesota, Dakota, Nebraska and other northwestern states, the work was done by the railway companies. The government did not contribute money for the express purpose of opening up those states; they granted land to the railway companies and the railway companies, in order to make their lands profitable, acted as immigration agents. With us on the contrary the country spent millions of money building railways and then the railway companies waited until the expenditure of the country in bringing immigrants in had tended to increase the value of their property. I feel that has been one of the defects of our policy in the past. This country has done more for railways than any other country in the world has done, and then has not insisted that the railways should do their share in developing the country.

As to the trade arrangement with the West Indies I trust that the agreement that has been come to is a beneficial one. I have no doubt that it will be. Any arrangement which tends to take the shackles off trade between this country and any other country must necessarily do good. I may say, however, that when you take out