

tariff would affect the farming interest, which gave employment to half, or rather more than half, of the population of New Brunswick. They must pay half of those increased duties. They would pay, at least, \$400,000 additional taxation under this tariff—he believed they would pay more than that, but put it at \$400,000, and what equivalent would they get for this enormous burden? It had been said they had the benefit of Protection to hops, lard, bacon, hams, preserved meats, animals, horses, potatoes, other vegetables, barley, oats, peas, and beans. He would not include flour, of which they in New Brunswick imported largely, and had none to export. The whole amount of duty to be derived from these articles he had enumerated, according to the returns of last year, would be only \$9,337. This was the whole direct benefit. It might be said there was some indirect benefit. He admitted that, in the article of vegetables and green crops, that it would be of some benefit to the parties supplying their markets with these commodities. On these articles, some \$2,024 would be collected, taking the returns of last year as a basis, and might act in some respects as protection to farmers to that extent. About 10c. per bushel duty had been placed upon potatoes. They did not import potatoes at all, while, last year, they exported 50,000 bushels, and the present year still more, so that the duty upon potatoes was of no benefit at all. They loaded a large number of vessels, he thought about twenty, last year, for American ports, which were their only market for that article, and the profit of that trade depended, to a considerable extent, upon a return freight being had for these vessels. The tariff, by its differential duties, would injure that trade and actually lessen the price of potatoes to the New Brunswick farmer to the extent that they would be affected by not receiving that return freight, and thus, instead of benefitting him, in regard to that production, by the duty, it would do him an injury. Take wool, which was admitted duty free. It had been contended that they had to import a certain amount of a superior quality, which they did not grow. Vermont produced the finest quality of wool. Their climate and soil were equally as good as Vermont to produce that article, and, if sufficiently en-

couraged, would do so. He contended that the Government, while protecting other industries, had shown criminal negligence in not protecting this. Hides were also admitted free. Theirs was largely a grazing country, and they produced a great quantity of hides in consequence. Was there any protection for this production? No; and in this he held the Government were again criminally negligent. Eggs were also admitted free. They had a large annual production in this line, and yet no protection was given. Then there was butter and cheese, on which the duty remained the same as before. No additional protection was afforded, though the people of New Brunswick imported last year 1,911lb. of butter, and 5,716lb. of cheese, and the people of that Province could produce these articles, as well as pork, for which no additional duty was provided. So far as the lumberman and the farmer were concerned, there was no compensation for their additional taxation; really and in effect no compensation, and he, as one of the representatives from New Brunswick, protested most strongly against it. He confessed he was not in favour of a high Protective duty. The old tariff was a Protective one to the extent of 17½ per cent., which, with the cost of importation, would make 20 to 21 per cent., which, he held, afforded sufficient protection to our manufacturers, which their previous prosperity fully demonstrated. High protective duties were sure to be burdensome to some branch of industry. They could not protect all; in fact, they could protect but a few. The consumer's interest should have been considered, which had not been the case, and the omission must have a detrimental effect. If all industries were protected alike it would have the effect of raising the cost of everything consumed by all, and increasing the cost of living alike to all, and so would amount to no Protection at all. If they did not protect all, the duties must operate unfairly on those industries which were not so protected. He held, if this tariff were carried out, it must injure the country by making it a dear country to live in, and would retard the progress, not only of the Maritime Provinces, but would retard the settlement of our great North-West.