

manner in which he dwelt upon this; the strong way in which he endeavoured to impress on the mind of my constituency what a great offender I had been, and that this was my crowning offence. Sir, he might have told that immense gathering that I, at the time, stated that the Estimates were then, as they were on previous years, largely in excess of the sum that would probably be expended. He might have told them that it was probable the receipts would be ample to cover the expenditure, and that I stated that should not such be the case, the \$800,000, the anticipated surplus of the then current year, would be amply sufficient to meet the deficiency. He might have said that. He might, Sir, have gone on and told them, "though Mr. Tilley has been such a blunderer, I, the Minister of Finance, have, for four years in succession, had a large deficiency. I made no provision for it." He might have pointed to the fact that, when the late Government were in power, they had a surplus of \$10,000,000, which the deficiencies under the present Government during the last four years had reduced to \$3,000,000, their deficiency being \$7,000,000 during the last four years,—taking the whole six years about \$5,000,000. But, I will say this, because I do not want to deny the credit or the standing of the Dominion: that we are in a position to state that, taking the whole twelve years into account since the organization of this Dominion; taking our surplus of twelve years; taking the amount of \$500,000, which had been charged improperly to income, that ought to have been charged to railways, and adding the \$4,500,000 received from the fishery award, and deducting the deficiency, it will be shown there has been a surplus over and above the expenditure amounting to \$10,000,000, or nearly so, which shows, despite what has occurred during the last three or four years, that this Dominion has life and vitality if its affairs are properly administered. I will go, if my hon. friend will permit me, in imagination with him to his constituency on the 17th of September. I will meet him there, on his return from Kingston, where he was engaged in a work, to him, no doubt, a labour of love.

Some Hon. GENTLEMEN: Successful labour.

MR. TILLEY: Where he found that, for the first time in his public life, the constituency that had stood by him—no matter what side of politics he was on—had deserted him, and I can see him as he receives his telegrams later on, finding that one friend after another has fallen, and that the Government is in a terrible minority—I can imagine, Sir, that I can see him pacing the floor, greatly agitated, and saying: "Well, this is terrible; this is hard." I can see him a little after with his countenance somewhat more placid and resigned. I can hear him exclaiming, as he has been thinking over the deficiencies for the last four years, and the condition of the finances,—I can hear him say aloud: "Well, terrible, terrible as has been the judgment, looking at it in the light in which I judged my political opponents, the verdict is just!" Now, Sir, we may have some other opportunities of considering the past, but the country is looking to the future; is looking for something more than badinage or recrimination between the two sides of the House, and asking: What are you going to give us as a remedy for all the evils existing? The anxiety of the Opposition for this remedy appears so great. The leading organ cries: "Let us have it now!" and it is echoed from hill-top to valley. They wanted it "now"; they could not wait a day for it; they were so anxious to get it, I hope it will be pleasing to them and to the whole country.

I may say, at the outset that, in considering this question of the tariff and protection to our industries, the Government considered how they could best discharge their duty to the Dominion; how they could best accomplish the object the country desired to see accomplished. We might obtain two million dollars by the imposition of duties upon certain articles, and appear to give protection, but in reality give none whatever. We might obtain a revenue from the increased duties, but not place it in such a position as to give real encouragement and protection to the industries we desire to protect. And, therefore, Sir, in arriving at the conclusions at which we have arrived, and which are to be submitted to the House, we submit them with the full conviction that they will be effective in their