

near the Falls are lighted at night by the electric light, but at that time other means were used for lighting them; still I maintain that a greater scene of activity is not presented in that direction now, than might have been seen in 1873. It was the testimony of every merchant in Ottawa at that time, that business was in the most active possible condition; they obtained very good prices; they had large numbers of mill men coming in with their pockets full of money, and trade was in a state of the greatest activity. Therefore, I think it is a mistake, whatever may have occurred since, to say that there was depression in 1873.

HON. MR. DEVER—I beg at once to take issue with the hon. gentleman from Prince Edward Island (Mr. Haythorne) and I would ask if prosperity prevailed then to such a degree, how he accounts for the large number of failures that took place and continued afterwards?

HON. MR. HAYTHORNE—It is not my business to answer the hon. gentleman's question in that shape, I merely rose to correct him as to the statement made about 1873.

HON. MR. FLINT—As to common glass, it can be bought and is bought as cheaply to day as it ever has been in the past. A great deal of it is now being manufactured in our own country; thereby work is given to a large number of men, helping them to support their families, and it may be mentioned that the money earned by them helps along other industries. It is within my own knowledge, for I use a great quantity of common glass, that it can be bought as cheaply to day as at any other time. So far as regards the finer plate glass which is put into the more expensive buildings, if gentlemen see fit to build such fine structures and must have plate glass, they surely can afford to pay a little more duty upon it; and the parties who rent these buildings, if they are fitted up so well, generally can by that very fact secure enough business to pay the difference in rent. Now with regard to woollens and cottons it cannot be denied that a great quantity of these fabrics is being manufactured in this country at present, and new factories are

springing up in a great many districts. I have been connected with this industry since I was eleven years old, and I know that cottons and woollens are as cheap, and in some of the lower grades cheaper, to day than they were in the past. We are getting these goods manufactured in our own country, and are bringing people here, and while we are increasing our population, we are also keeping our money at home instead of sending it abroad. The same may be said of many other industries which now exist in Canada. I know nothing about tobacco, and care nothing about it; indeed I wish no such thing were used in the world. However since it is used I think it is desirable that it should be good in quality. It cannot however be denied that taking the country throughout, it is in a far better position now than it was in 1873; at that time very few manufactories were in existence, but they are now being built up in all directions. Our exports used to be far behind our imports, but we are gaining now upon that, which I consider is a good sign of the prosperity of the country. I can also see evidence of that prosperity in the fact that the banks are overloaded with money, that many people have money to lend, and that interest is going down; all these things show that the prosperity of the country is greatly in advance of what it was in 1872. I do not wish to detain the House, and I would not have got up to speak on this subject, but that I think it is very wrong for hon. gentlemen to endeavor to make out that the country is no more prosperous to-day than it was ten years ago. I know that goods can be bought cheaper to-day; I am wearing now a pair of trousers made out of the cloth of this country, and I bought it for thirty-five cents per yard less than I would have had to pay for Scotch tweed, shewing that we are manufacturing these goods cheaper in this country than we can import them from home. We are getting more for our produce than we did in former years, and the consequence is that we are prospering, notwithstanding what many may say to the contrary; and this I honestly attribute to the course taken by the present Government, when they came into power, in establishing the National Policy.

HON. MR. RYAN—I would like to