

was bracketed with a duty on coal; he supposed it was done because working people pay more for their fuel and keeping them cold would help them to pay more for their food and support starvation, but the very next year after this wonderful stroke of policy, Sir Francis Hincks came down and proposed to repeal these duties he had imposed only a twelve month previously. Probably no other man in the House of Commons at that time had a reputation so high as Sir Francis in such matters as these, but he found that the duty he had imposed the previous year was absurd, and he announced that he was going to repeal it. This was before dinner, but in the meantime some parties interested in coals and mills had insisted that the duty should be retained, and when he came back after dinner his policy was that it should not be repealed. The feeling, however, against these imposts was too strong, and the next year they were swept off the statute book. A national policy should, besides the characteristics he had named, also be a policy approved of very generally, at least by the gentlemen who propounded it, but it seemed to him that was not the case in this instance. The present proposition was to raise the duties; but when the Finance Minister had brought down his budget in 1873 to increase the tariff, the increase did not seem to meet the approval of honorable gentlemen who now clamored for a much larger augmentation. The remarks of the financial leader of the Opposition on that occasion were in effect that it was a shame to burthen the people by increasing taxation in this way, yet he (Mr. Penny) supposed from the remarks he had lately heard from these same quarters that while it was cruel to raise the duties two and a half per cent. for the sake of revenue, it would be patriotism still further to augment them by five, seven or ten per cent. This desire for increased duties had indeed been sprung on Parliament very suddenly. The honorable gentleman who had moved the resolution now before the House, had denounced the augmentation of duties by Mr. Cartwright as a cruel and "mischievous tax." Another honorable gentleman, (Mr. Alexander) now he understood in favour of this national policy, was very much opposed to the increase in duties at that time, and on the 26th of February, 1875, in introducing a resolution on another subject, said:—"It would have been a prudent action on the part of the Government to have announced on the opening of Parliament the repeal of the two and a half per cent. added to the duties last session." He (Mr. Penny) did

not know whether the honorable gentleman who wanted to take off the two and a half per cent increase on the tariff then, desired to add more now; but he feared that he did. Then the same honorable gentleman on the 2nd of April, 1875, said:—"Can we forget that during the last session the Government pleaded the necessity for extracting \$2,000,000 more from the people by additional customs duties." He (Mr. Penny) did not know how much it was proposed to extract under the national policy, but this showed that the policy had not met with that broad spirited and uniform support that would be expected from one that bore so taking a title. What was this national policy then? It was not British; nor was it Canadian. It was simply Yankee. It was an attempt to assimilate our system of duties to those of the American Republic.

Hon. Mr. HOPE—Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. PENNY—To assimilate our system of duties to those of the Americans was to annex us in the most practical manner, and to separate us as widely as possible from all the feelings, the affections and the interests of the mother country, it was to make us go hand in hand with the people of a foreign country, to cause us to jump up and down like puppets, with no will of our own, in the hands of the man who pulled the wires. His view of a national policy was one that would conform to the policy of the empire of which we formed a part, and would be at once free and consonant to the great interests of the country. Who was it made this country? Was it the manufacturer, of whom nothing was heard until a comparatively few years ago? He was not a very old Canadian, but he could recollect the time when there were very few manufacturers in Canada, in the sense in which the word was now employed, and it was plain manufacturers were the creatures of those interests that existed here before them, and not those interests of the later manufacturers.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL—They are very essential to the prosperity of the country though.

Hon. Mr. PENNY—No doubt they were a great source of prosperity, but only so when their tendency was to build up the country, not to deplete it. The more manufacturers the better if they were able to make out their own living, but if they were like so many paupers to get their living out of the taxation imposed on other people who did make the country, then they were not an advantage, but an injury. The men who made Canada were those who went into the forest,