

five years that his party have discovered his loyalty. He knows that five years ago the Liberal party convulsed this country by the advocacy of unrestricted reciprocity with the United States. Does any person doubt what that would mean? We all know that it meant, Canada turning her back upon the mother country, going in for continental free trade, adopting the high tariff of the United States made at Washington as our tariff, and putting it in operation against England and all the rest of the world. That was what unrestricted reciprocity meant. And yet, these loyal gentlemen, these super-loyal gentlemen, these gentlemen who now flaunt thus boldly their new-found loyalty, were five years ago advocating a disloyal policy. For fear hon. gentlemen who may not be acquainted with the facts may think me somewhat mistaken on this point, I will take the liberty of reading to the House what the hon. the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Sir Richard Cartwright) said at Oshawa, on February 10th, 1891:

C. W. Scott asked: "Does the Liberal party favour discrimination against Great Britain by admitting American manufactures free and taxing the manufactures of Great Britain?"

Sir Richard Cartwright replied: "Certainly we do."

Is that not sufficient to show what the position of the Liberal party in this country was, and what they intended to do? The "Globe" of December 14, 1891, commenting on Sir Oliver Mowat's letter to the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, said:

Mr. Mowat now declares that he is in favour of unrestricted reciprocity. We infer that he countenances discrimination against British goods, without which it cannot be obtained.

That is the history, Sir, of unrestricted reciprocity.

Mr. LANDERKIN. What is the history of the unrestricted offer?

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. If my hon. friend is so dense as not to know the difference between an unrestricted offer of reciprocity and an offer of unrestricted reciprocity, I give him up. Now, Sir, the Hon. Wilfrid Laurier, at Toronto, on the 30th of September, 1889, at a meeting of the Young Men's Liberal Club, said:

I have read the history of unrestricted reciprocity in this way, that every reform has cost to the reformers years of labour, and those years of labour I, for one, am prepared to give; and though the Democrats may be defeated in the States, and though Canadians may grow faint-hearted in Canada, the Liberal party, as long as I have anything to do with it, will remain true to the cause until that cause is successful. I will not expect to win in a day, but I am prepared to remain in the cool shades of Opposition until the cause has triumphed, and you shall never hear a complaint from me.

The hon. gentleman changed his mind afterwards, and concluded that he would prefer

to abandon the policy of unrestricted reciprocity and to take some other policy for the sake of getting into power. He went on:

I tell you, the Liberal party will never cease the agitation until they triumph and obtain continental free trade. We are asked sometimes, gentlemen, what is the programme of the Liberal party. This is the programme of the Liberal party: to obtain a continental freedom of trade.

I am not at all certain that the hon. Minister of Trade and Commerce had not that in his mind to-day when he intimated that he expected the United States to be brought in under this arrangement. Knowing, as he does, that the United States, through Mr. Blaine, announced years ago, and have reiterated on various occasions, that Canada shall have no reciprocity with the United States unless she discriminates against England, the manner in which the hon. gentleman gloated over his triumph over the National Policy, and his intimation that this preferential policy may be extended to the United States shows that it is likely to become a live issue at no distant day. The hon. Prime Minister concluded this speech with these words:

Success will certainly crown our efforts at no distant day. Fixing our eyes steadily upon the goal, we shall go on steadily until we reach it—unrestricted continental reciprocity.

Do hon. gentlemen feel for a single moment that I am doing injustice to their readiness to adopt continental free trade, to turn their backs upon the mother country, and to put in force in Canada the high tariff of the United States against the mother country? Do they think I am doing them an injustice? Let me remind them that the ablest man who ever stood in their ranks in this country, the Hon. Edward Blake, when that battle was fought in 1891, abandoned them, refused to have lot or part with them, and abandoned his constituency, and gave as his reason that he was not willing to fight under false colours, because he believed that the policy of the Liberal party would end in severing the connection between the Crown of England and the Dominion of Canada. And are we to be lectured on the subject of loyalty by gentlemen who, five years ago, roamed through this country endeavouring to strike down British interests and to establish continental free trade at the cost of every sentiment of British loyalty? No, Sir. We stand ready to do everything that men can do to uphold and support any and every measure calculated to draw the great parent state and this country more closely together. Proud of our connection, loyal as we have been from the first hour of our existence down to the present hour, devoted to the Crown and to British institutions, we stand to-day where we have always stood, ready to do battle as best we can in behalf of the suffering industries of Canada. Sir, if