

site, that, on that occasion, the duty on tea was raised from 9c. to 12½c. per pound. On animals, the duty was 15 per cent. *ad valorem*. It was also worthy of notice, as Sir Alexander Galt was so often referred to as a high financial authority, that, in reducing the tariff from 20 and 25 to 15 per cent., he laid great stress on the improvement that would take place in consequence in our relations with the Mother Country. At that time alarm was felt, anxiety was felt, and irritation was felt, at the course pursued by the American Government in putting an end to the Reciprocity Treaty; and then was the time, if the hon. gentlemen opposite had determined to inaugurate a National Policy, to have laid down such a policy and to have carried it out to the letter. Why, at that moment, Confederation was in contemplation, and was being rapidly carried into effect; and, if the policy that these hon. gentlemen defined to-day, and proposed to-day, was a policy that was to weld us into one great nation, then was the time to have laid down that policy. Then was the time to have warned our friends in the Maritime Provinces that the policy of putting a duty on all farm products, and a policy, on the other hand, of imposing a duty on coal was to be carried into effect. That was the very time when they ought to have taken the initiative in carrying out the policy which they foreshadowed to-day; but so far from that, as he had said, there was no duty imposed on coal, no duty on wheat and no duty on salt. He would only, in passing, just notice the tariff changes which took place under the auspices of Sir John Rose in 1867, the object at that time being to assimilate the tariff of Upper Canada to that of the Lower Provinces. When the duty on flour was imposed of 25c. per barrel—that being the amount, and not 50c., as had been stated by the hon. member for Cumberland a few evenings since, imposed by that hon. gentleman in Nova Scotia—that duty was bitterly opposed by the representatives of New Brunswick, who had always been hostile to such duties. The tariff of 1868 must be regarded as having been intended at the time

definitely to settle what should be the policy of the Dominion. He was now taking a historical review of these events, as he had said, for the purpose of showing what had been the policy of hon. gentlemen opposite when they were in power, when they were entrusted with the supreme duty of carrying out a National Policy to its fullest extent, and when they had a large majority at their backs, ready, he would not say to do anything, but ready enough to do then almost anything demanded of them. The effect of the tariff of Sir John Rose in 1868 was to admit corn and breadstuffs free. A small duty was retained on meats of 1c. per pound; on horses a specific duty was levied of \$15; on cattle, of \$10; on swine, of \$2; and on sheep, of \$1; while salt was admitted free. The unenumerated list was retained at 15 per cent., and a small additional duty on spirits was levied in consequence of the abolition of the duty on corn. A debate took place at some considerable length on the tariff resolutions introduced on that occasion; and in the course of that debate the right hon. member for Kingston took part. He would first read to the House what he (Sir John A. Macdonald) said on that occasion. Mark, that then, as now, the American market was closed against the people of Canada. Mark, that then, just as now, there was an American duty upon coal, which prevented our coal from entering the United States, except by the payment of a heavy import. Mark, that then, just as now, except, perhaps, in respect to manufactures which, he admitted, stood, at that time, in a somewhat different position, the very same arguments might have been used for the imposition of retaliatory duties on breadstuffs, on minerals, and on all other matters, except, possibly, manufactures, that could be used to-day. And Sir John A. Macdonald then said:

“The flour tax had been imposed as an assertion of the independence of the country against American exclusive legislation. It had been maintained with this view, until it had been found to work oppressively—”

Mind, that was a duty of 25c. per barrel on American flour—

MR. DYMOND.