THE HURON SIGNAL, FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1882.

THE COAL TAX.

A "Sockdolloger" for Sir "Onderdonk " Tupper.

Able Exposition of the Coal Question by Br. M. C. Cameron, M. P., for South

Mr. Cameron (Huron). Mr. Speaker, Mr. Cameron (nuron). Mr. Sprease, if my memory does not deceive me very much, not very long ago the hon. gen-tleman, who has just taken his seat, was not such a pronounced advocate of the policy of the Government as he appears to be to-night. If I am net very much mistaken, within a period of two years, that hon. gentleman declared, upon the floor of Parliament, that the policy of the Government was injurious to the Province he represented. If 1 am not much mistaken, he made a most pathetic The hon. gentleman said, in his speech. Prince Edward, because the Tariff was most injurious to the best interest of coal tax : that Province.

Mr. Hackett. No such thing. Mr. Cameron, (Huron). Light has dawned on his dark mind, and to-night we find him a pronounced advocate of the policy of Protection. 1 did not pay sufficient attention to the remarks of the hon. gentleman to be able to follow him through his whole speech, not do I propose doing so. I paid more attention, a good deal, as I always do, to the speech of the hon. Minister of Public Works. However one may diagree with the propositions that hon. gentleman lays down, or with the conclusions that he arrives at-and sometimes he arrives at extraordinary conclusions—one cannot help, at all events, I cannot help, admiring my hon. friend; he is always pleasant, good natured and smiling, and, therefore, I always pay a good deal of attention, and of deference, I may say, to his observations. But I think the hon. gentleman in his opening refriend for Quebec East (Mr. Laurier) for having changed within the last ten years his opinions on Protection and Free Trade, but the hon. gentleman forgot that there were two of his own col-leagues beside him, who, if my memory serves me right, were at one period of their history pronounced Free Traders. It was ungracious of my hon. friend, therefore, to allude to the change of Works, was ungracious also to his to tax on coal was paid by the people of Ontario, because it was necessary to have a tax of this kind for revenue pur-Ontario, because it was necessary to have a tax of this kind for revenue pur-purposes, as we were constructing great public works. A revenue from what? From the very articles we are now dis-ussing—coal and breadstuffs. The hon. Minister of Finance, when discus-sing this question some time ago, ad mitted that the people of Ontario paid one-half of the coal tax — he did not, think they paid more than one-the statement of the coal tax — he did not, think they paid more than onenot think they paid more than onehalf. But the hon. Minister of they amounted to 687,065 tons; in 1878 Railways, who is never at a loss, who who never has any difficulty about the to 1,034,800 tons. This shows that, in facts or figures—because if the facts or 1880, with the National Policy, and, I figures are not there, they can easily be suppose, the Nova Scotia mines in full manufactured to suit any line of argument he may adopt-was prepared to Scotia coal was only 73,553 tons over the establish beyond peradventure that the sales in 1873; and that, in 1881, with people of this country do not pay a sin- the National Policy and the Neva Scois all paid by the people. who produce eal on the other side of the line. Would it not be wise. Mr. Speaker, for the hon. Minister of Finance, the hon. Minister of Public Works, and the hon. Minister of Railways to get together and settle this difficulty which they have among themselves before they announce their views to the House ? They are evidently not agreed on the subject; one says that we pay half, the other says we pay the whole, and the other that says that we do not pay a farthing of the tax at all. There was another observa-tion made by the hon. Minister of Public Works, and perhaps, after all, it was the most effective part of his argument; following the example of his leader, he appealed to his followers on both sides of the Heuse-and I am serry to say he has follewers on both sides—to stick to falling off, the importation of American 1878, when the reverse is the fact. vote down the proposition of my hen. friend from Quebec East. Whether the preposition was right or not was of no kind of consequence; the taxes in ques-tion for takes the taxes in ques-tion for takes the taxes in ques-tion for takes the taxes takes the taxes takes tion formed one of the bricks of great superstructure, and it did not be- submitted to the House figures with the come any of the members on either side of the House who supported him to dislace one of the bricks. place one of the bricks. It was of no kind of consequence to him whether the coal tax or the bread tax was obnoxious or not; that was not the question; the the importations of coal, both hard and appeal he made to his friends was to soft, into Ontario from the United vote down the proposition of my hon. friend from Quebec East, be the propo-sition right or be it wrong; and I have no doubt his advice will be taken. II have be taken. II have be taken to be the propo-sition right or be it wrong; and I have no doubt his advice will be taken. II have be taken to be taken have no doubt his followers in this despite the marvellous competition from House, whenever he raises his little fin- the Nova Scotia mines, spoken of by ger and asks them to do a thing, will do it without a murnur; there are no difficul-ties in the way that cannot be got over mo conscientious scruples or conscien-tious qualms. Now, Sir, I propose deal-ed States reached 810,970 tons. In ing with the coal tax as it affects the other words, we imported from Unit-Province of Ontario. The bread tax has ed States, in 1881, into Ontario, 222,been dealt with by my hon. friend from 558 tons more than in 1878, Quebec East, and he has not been an-swered, in my judgment. and in fact, no one has attempted to answer him. I propose dealing with the coal tax and taking up a few observations made on the subject by the hon. Minister of price of coal. Does the hon. gentleman Railways; I propose analysing the figures mean to tell us that because, in 1880, we Railways; I propose analysing the figures that hen. gentleman gave to the House; therefore the price of 66,000,000 tons, I propose to call into question the correctness of the statement made by him the coal production of the United States that the coal tax was not paid by the in 1880, was thereby affected in the that the coal tax was not paid by the people of Ontario. but by the producers of coal on the other side of the line; I propose to challenge the tables he has propose to onahenge the tables he has submitted to the House, and I propose proving, beyond doubt that the figures he presented to Parliament were cooked above the amount were in 1880 over and -I do not mean to say by the hon. Minister yf-Railways, but by the man who prepared the figures for him: I pro-

they did miniced; I propose proving that the premises on which he based his arthe premises on which he based his ar-gument were all wrong, and I, of course, propose following that up by preving that the conclusions which the hon. gen-tleman arrived at were equally wrong. Now, the hon. gentleman started out with two propositions one was that the price of ceal from the United States is fixed and governed by the competition it has to meet with in the United States, and the other was that the imposition of the duty, or the ceal tax, has not in-creased the price of ceal to the Canadian creased the price of coal to the Canadian creased the price of coal to the Canadian consumer; or, in other words, that ow-ing to this competition, about which the hon. gentleman spoke so vehemently and so loudly the other night, the price of coal has been reduced in the Ameri-can market, to the Canadian purchaser, and of evenes to the Canadian purchaser. much mistaken, he made a most pathetic appeal to hon. gentlemen opposite to consider the claims of the Island of ister of Finance, who said that the people of this country paid a portion of the

"I am satisfied my hon. friend has 50 cents per ton on American coal, or coal coming into Ontario for consump-tion, its cost is necessarily reduced. Let us see what are the facts, and then we will be able to decide whether the premises laid down and the conclusions ar-rived at by the hon. gentleman are right marks, was exceedingly ungracious to his colleagues whe sat to his right and to his left. He undertook to twit my hon. friend for Quebec East (Mr. Laurier) ket was much keener during the past three years than during the three or any number of years preceding the introduc-tion of the National Policy. But com-petition has not been much keener and the output from the mines of Nova Scotia has not been, to any appreciable extent, increased either by the National Policy or by any other cause in the last opinion on the part of my hon. friend from Quebec East. If he did change his opinions, of which I know nothing, all I can say is this: that if my hon friend to submit to the House, in answer to the from Quebec East changed his opinions, he got new light on the subject; he is that, in my judgment, entirely disproves going onwards, while they are going his propositions and conclusions. If the backwards. The hon. Minister of Pubanything, it is this: that the keener colleagues in some of the other observa-tions he made. He admitted that the duced. If we can prove that the competition has not been any keener during

admit it, that this unappreciable amount of coal which we put on the market in 1880 over 1873, cannot in the slightest possible degree have stated the price of coal in the Ameri-can market to the Canadian purchaser and consumer. But, Sir, there is still another way by which I propose to show the fallacy of the tables is ubmitted her to Pariament. I pronounce these tables to be, from beginning to end, false and delusive, calculated to mislead the pab-lic, and I propose now to prove that they are false and delusive. To establish pose proving that those figures were false and calculated to mislead, and that delusive, calculated to mialead the public of the deluctions mialeading, and calculation in the proper that they in this proposition let us take the price of the different variety in the following table for the states, to the world. The coal dealers make no distinction there. They do not ask where the ceal is going to, or who is the purchaser, or who is going to consume it. They simply fix their prices and get them. Does the how state, the price of coal dealers of the United States for the different variety in Canada. I hold in my hand, from the Secretary are quoting into the world. The coal dealers make no distinction there. They do not ask where the ceal is going to, or who is the purchaser, or the states the for the states is going to consume it. They simply fix their prices and get them. Does the beard to the states for the states for the states is the price of coal and that price reases ago, and in every year, the price of sol and that price reases: Grate, Egg. Price of short ton, the for the table and that price reases. The price of sol and that price the price to day? A large in-there is increases. The price of sol and that price to day? A large in-there is price to day the price to day? A large in-there the prices to-

of the duty, the price has gone steadily up instead of going down, year by year, in the American markets, notwithstand-tleman says) for any impartial mind to ing that competition the hon. gentleman has laid such stress on, I have disposed imposition of 50 cents a ton has not only of his argument. I am not submitting not increased the price of coal to the consumer in Ontario, but has lowered purpose by the clerks of the public De-partments, or the evidence of unskilled 1878 is put down \$3.85, but in 1881 the partments, or the evidence of unskilled or inexperienced men outside Parlia-ment. The figures I am quoting are from the Secretary of the Board of Trade in Oswere, the Secretary of the Board of Trade in Cleveland, and from the manager of the coal companies at Buffa-lo. I have got their documents and let-ters in my hand, and their statements are once to the inscretary of any bady. ters in my hand, and their statements are open to the inspection of any bedy. I find, according to these returns, that the price of the best hard coal, nut coal, in Buffalo, where the price is always re-gulated, was on the 1st September, 1876, \$4.90. What is the price now—is it less ? No; it is \$5.55 the long ton, and \$4.95 the short ton. And, here let me recall another circumstance that indicates the utter dishonesty of me recall another circumstance that indicates the utter dishonesty of the statements submitted by the hon. gentleman — I do not charge inten-tional dishonesty in the hon. gentle-man. The hon. gentleman took the quotations on the other side of the line for the long ton while accurately known.

here regulates the price of coal on the

the last three years than during the three years preceding the introduction of the National Policy, that portion of and he made no allowance for the differ-price of coal, in 1878, at \$3.85, but he

that three years ago, and in every year there is increase: Grate, Egg, Price of short ton, Year, Price of, long ton, \$5.50 Year, Price of, long ton, year, lon

"I am satisfied my hon. friend has not given that subject the close and ex haustive study that I have given to it. fixed until the first day of the next position of the duty has not coat the people of this country anything, but the reverse. Now, Sir, the the price of coal in the position is, that the price of coal in the United States is fixed and preserved by the com-position is, that the price of coal in the United States is fixed and preserved of the bon. gentleman's first position of the duty, the price has gone steadly in the circle states is fixed and preserved by the com-position is, that the price of coal in the United States is fixed and preserved of the bon. gentleman's first position of the duty, the price has gone steadly in the circle states is fixed and preserved by the com-position is, that the price of coal in the United States is fixed and preserved of the bon. gentleman's first position is, that the price of coal in the United States is fixed and preserved of the bon. gentleman's first gentleman was that, by the imposition of the duty, the price has gone steadly in the circle of the duty, the price has gone steadly in the circle of the duty, the price has gone steadly in the circle of the duty. Now, Sir, the hon. gentleman's first gentleman was that, by the imposition of the duty, the price has gone steadly in the circle of coal in the United States is fixed and preserved by the com-position is, that the price of coal in the United States is fixed by the competition there. Now, the argument of the hou. gentleman was that, by the imposition of the duty, the price has gone steadly in the circle of the duty, the price has gone steadly in the circle of the duty, the price has gone steadly in the circle of the duty, the price has gone steadly in the circle of the duty, the price has gone steadly in the circle of the duty, the price has gone steadly in the circle of the duty, the price has gone steadly in the circle of the duty, the price has gone steadly in the circle of the duty, the price ha short ten, than \$4.73. Again, the hon, gentleman says that the price of coal is regulated by the competition, and that the increased competition in the Cana-dian market has reduced the price of coal to the Canadian purchaser on the other side. I say that is wholly incor-rect and I promus to actablish that fort rect, and I propose to establish that fact ister of Railways. But I air. go-by the letter I have in my hand from ing to quote the hon. Minister of the Secretary of the Board of Trade, Railways against himself, and sure-Oswego, which is as follows:-"I am in receipt of your favor of 10th instant. I am unable to give you the price of coal for the month of Septem-

per in the years mentioned, but have at Cobeurg: "Can any person give me a reason obtained from A. S. Cook, agent of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western why coal in a country where the revenue Coal company, the prices for 1st Novem-ber of the same year, which, I trust, will answer your purpose. Mr. Cook source of revenue? I know of none. Is also wishes me to state that your Tariff it because the masses of the has not the slightest influence on the not benefitted by it? I deny i it because the masses of the people are

But that is not all; he winds up with

this little tit-bit: "Again Mr. Blake states that I said in Pictou the \$400,000 collected in coal was paid by the people of Ontario. What if I did! Do you not think Mr. Blake would have acted the part of a candid man, if he had also told you that of the \$369,000 of revenue collected on wheat other side. I have a letter from the Secretary of the Board of Trade of Cleveland, who, speaking of the same by Ontzrio, and all was paid by the Mar-"These circulars are the general ones itime Provinces." I kope hon gentle-men from the Maritine Provinces and especially those who laud the National used for all parties, either Canadian or American, for shipment to the Western Policy, and who are opp United States ports, such as Detroit, change in this marvellously Policy, and who are opposed to any perfect Tar iff, will take note of what the hon, the Minister of Railways admits in his speech - that the people of Ontario do not pay

the tax on breadstuffs, but that it paid by the people down by the sea. And I hope the people from the other Provinces, who support the hon. the asked, and Minister of Railways, will take note of the sea do not pay the tax on coal, but onger on the time of the House. established my proposition, and I defy the hon. the Minister of Railways or any of his supporters, to controvert my facts and arguments. I have shown the ab-surdity of the argument that the 73,000 tons of coal which we raised in 1878 over what we raised in 1873 could regulate the price of the 66,000,000 tons produced in the United States market in 1880. have shown that the tibles read to the. for him. He is always forcible when he deals with generalities but particulars the fact that coal sold at Ogdensburg in lead. I have shown that the figures and the winter of 1880-81 for \$5.90, while quotations given by the hon. gentleman "Here you have facts clearly establish- at Prescott the retail price was \$6 per as from the American markets are not ton; the cost of freight to Prescott, harjustified by the reports. If that the tables were cooked, by somebor dues and unloading is 68 cents. If that the tables were cooked by some-the duty were added to the cost of the body. I do not know or care by whom coal it ought to have sold at \$5.90 plus they were cooked. I have shown that 68 cents, plus 50 cents, or, in all, the conclusions drawn by the hon. gentleman from the promises he laid down are I say that statement is wholly miswholly fallacious and wrong, and I think leading. I hold in my hand a table showing the prices of hard coal at Og-densburg and Prescott respectively for ther or not the the position of the hon. three years before and since the duty was in osed. It runs as follows:the good sound common sense of the Diff. people of this country, I can leave it to
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them, and when the hour comes as come it must-and I do not care how soon-when the people are called upon to pronounce on the policy of the Gov ernment, I am greatly mistaken in the

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never hesitates, and who never doubts, tons; in 1880, to 954,659 tons; in 1881, blast, the increase of sales of Nova gle farthing of the coal tax, but that it tia coal mines still in full blast, and the country prosperous, and everything flourishing as we hear continually from hon. gentlemen opposite, the increase was only 153,694 tons over the sales of 1873. Does the hon. gentleman mean to say that because, in 1880, 73,000 tons of Nova Scotia coal were sold more than in 1873, the price of American coal was thereby reduced in the slightest possible degree? There is still another way by which one can test the correctness of the propositions of the hon. gentleman. If the Neva Scotian coal has come into there can be no mistake about them. I coal, during the last three years than formerly the former must have displaced the latter in our markets to a great ex-tent, and the importation from the United States must necessarily have falthe figures, but as the hon. gentleman has smallest hole to creep through. It was of no correct, I am going to trouble the House tlemen-by considering the different kinds of coal and the prices of each, a course which the hon. Minister, in pre-Dealers in coal know that there are four To see whether the argument of the hon. gentleman is correct, you have to compare the prices of the different grades of coal admit that he is right and I am wrong. But till he can do so I will take a differ-

price of the best coal, short ton, in the gentleman, as to the correctness of these Precisely the same United States, was \$4.60; the price is figures, to the Lehigh Valley Coal Com- the hon. the Minister of Railways will the admission of the hon. the Ministers new \$4.95, or 35 cents more. In 1878, pany, who give the above quotations. search among the records of the coal of Railways, that the people down by companies of the United States in vain the sea do not pay the tax on coal, but \$4.40; in 1.681, 1st November, it was sonable man that the hon. gentleman's for a justification of the statement he submitted to the House, that the price people of Ontsrio. I will not trespass \$4.95, or 55 cents higher In 1879 the price of this coal had gone down in the United States, when the very best hard coal could be bought for \$3.03 a ton. The price of that coal is now \$4.95, or an increase ever 1879 of \$1.92. The price of hard coal, in Buffalo, in 1880, was \$4.80; and, in 1881, or now, \$4.95, but the model is the price the tables are prepared for him, but he ought to have verified them before venturing in the price the price of and coal, in Buffalo, in 1880, was \$4.80; and, in 1881, or now, \$4.95, but the price price the price the price price the price the price the price price the price the price price the price price the price price the price the price price price price the price price price the price price price price price the price submitting them to Parliament. There pays this duty or not at Ogdensburg 15 cents more than in 1880. So that, from 1876 down to the fall of 1881-and everybody that knows anything about takes that he cannot sustain. He is not the Canadian consumer did not pay the the coal trade is aware that the teason's satisfied with dealing with generalities duty, because the price to the Canadian supply is always purchased by Canadians in the fall, nobody buying in the win-ter—the price of coal has gone regularly for him. He is always forcible when the price is to be found in that they will and do misand it is higher to-day than it was are dangerous to him. He says: in 1878, by fifty-five cents a ton. I give those quotations from the Secretary of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company, and ed that the very moment the duty was imposed the parties who shipped their have their circulars for the last six years. coal to Toronto and Quebec put these which anybody can examine to see places into a different category from whether they are right or wrong. If what they were before. They the hon. Minister's argument were good—if the duty stimulated produc-icost to a larger extent than the amount is and reduced the isot to a larger extent than the amount is a start is a s cost to a larger extent than the amount tion, and that caused additional compe of duties paid." tition, and that again reduced the price Well, that is an extraordinary proposion, but I will not deal with it just now in the general. I propose showing that his figures are incorrect. He goes on to say

"At Oswego coal sold during the present year at \$5.75; freight from Oswego to Belleville, 40 cents; harbor dues and I propose submitting to the House facts. unloading, 28 cents; if duty were added figures and statements from undoubted to cost 50 cents the coal ought to sell at authorities on the other side of the line that even the hon. Minister of Railways

able to answer. There is another way I say by which I propose testing the cor-

price of coal." Now, let us consider on what he bases his arguinent. In order to fortify his position, what does he do? In order to to tell the hon member that if he will prove that the competition reduced the examine the quotations for the last three price of coal to the Canadian consumer, years at those points he will find that he puts the price down to \$4.25 per ton. In order to prove that the consumer Huron by the amount of duty. I do not or five grades of coal, hard and soft. In order to prove that the consumer finited by the anomal of day. I do not of that unsurpassed remedy for coughs, sold at different prices. You find hard cos not pay the duty, he increases the care to trouble the House with hgures colds, asthma, croup, sore throat, and cold at one price, while price in the American market to \$5.75, for all the points in question, but those all lung complaints. If you suffer from coal at Buffalo sold at one price, while another kind is sold in Toronto at a lower price, the different grades bearing different prices. But the hon. gentle-man, to establish his argument, no doubt, took different grades at Buffalo to \$4.25, when he wanted to prove the one doubt, took different grades at Buffalo to the the price in the American market at doubt, took different grades at Buffalo to take the former and the and Toronto, and of course the different grades would be sold at different prices. the fact that the competition, induced prices charged Canadian consumers are by the coal duty, had reduced the price less than are charged on the other side

made

of coal to the Canadian consumer. of the lines, Now, Sir, when he wants to show that Some hon. Some hon. Members. Hear, hear. Mr. Cameron (Huron). 1 know I am in the United States with their prices in the Canadian consumer does not pay Canada; and if the hon gentleman can the duty, he increases the price of coal touching a tender and raw spot, and satisfy the House that these prices have from \$4.25 up to \$5.75 a ton. But that hon. gentlemen opposite do not been reduced by the National Policy, that proved no difficulty in the hon. like the fancy figures of the hon. Minis-I have not another word to say-I will gentleman's way. He had two argu-ter of Railways to be successfully exposgentleman's way. He had two argu-ments which he wished to establish, and so he manipulates facts to prove his But till he can do so I will take a diner ent view. The following table will show the correctness of my position: - afraid of facts; they never stand in his way. In a struggle between the hon, way is a struggle between the hon, the facts always is a direct of a struggle between the hon.

gentleman and facts. the facts always read quotations at Buffalo and Hamilton come out second best, and so they do in showing, beyond a shadow of doubt that the present case. In order to establish the condition of affairs is very different the present case. In order to establish the total stated by the hon. Minister of for all throat and lung complaints, coughs not pay the duty, he puts the price of Railways. The wholesale prices in Buf-coal at \$5.75 at Oswego, freight to Bel-falo and Hamilton were as follows

Deserving of Praise.

Too much cannot be expressed in favor all lung complaints. If you suffer from neglected colds, try Hagyard's Pectoral

If you are suffering with low and de-pressed spirits, loss of appetite, general debility, disordered blood, weak constitution, headache, or any disease of a bilious nature, by all means procure a bottle of Electric Bitters. You will be surprised to see the rapid improvement that will follow; you will be inspired with new life; strength activity will return; pain and misery wlll cease, and henceforth you will rejoice in the praise of Electric Bitters. Sold at fifty cents a bottle, by Geo. Rhynas. [1]

"Whatevery one says must be true."

And every one who has tested its merits speaks warmly in praise of Hagyard's Pectoral Balsam as a positive cure incipient consumption

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or five grades of coal, hard and soft,