

that paper, with reference to the furniture manufactures, upon which, they say, the duty has been doubled. I will read a very inconsistent article, after this declaration, that the manufacturer can sell cheaper than the same furniture can be bought in the United States. Now, when running the late election in St. John, a message came to me from one of the gentlemen referred to in this article. He was a large commission merchant and importer of furniture from the United States. He had been a life long supporter of mine. The message was to this effect: "Mr. So-and-so has supported you ever since you entered public life; he is anxious to do so still, but he requires one promise from you." I said, "What is that promise?" He answered, "Unless you promise not to increase the duty on American furniture, an article in which he is dealing, he cannot support you." I said, I would be sorry to lose his support, because he had stood by me through evil and good report, but I could not give that promise. When the hon. member for Lambton (Mr. Mackenzie) was scolding the House the other night, he gave me a passing notice, and said that I had made statements in St. John that were not consistent with the policy we had introduced to this House. I stated distinctly the policy I advocated was a readjustment of the Tariff in such a way as to give Protection to just such industries as this, and that being part of the National Policy. I declined to give any promise of the kind, because I felt it was one of the industries that required and would receive protection from Parliament. More than that, if I erred at all in my calculations or in my statements, when I stated it was a readjustment of the Tariff and not an increase of taxation we had in view, it was because I believed in the correctness of the Estimates of the late Finance Minister, which turned out to be for Customs and Excise, \$2,500,000 over and above what would have been received if there had been no change in the Tariff. Therefore, if the receipts had been \$13,750,000 for the one, and \$5,250,000 for the other, making \$19,000,000 in all, that would have been sufficient for this Government, without necessitating a resort to additional taxation. But, when we were face to face with this deficiency, it became necessary not only

to readjust the Tariff for the purposes which we declared, and which we advocated, but in order to get an increased revenue, so that our expenditure might not exceed our revenue. I will read from the article referred to from the *St. John Telegraph*. Mr. Elder is the editor, a gentleman of great energy and ability, and a most determined advocate of Free-trade and an opponent of the National Policy. He says:

"MESSRS. STEWART & WHITE'S ESTABLISHMENT.—Messrs. Stewart & White, who gained such a reputation prior to the National Policy, by their importation of splendid furniture from abroad, have now in their fine ware-rooms on Charlotte street, probably the finest display of parlour and bedroom furniture ever seen in St. John. Much of this has been made by their own workmen, and most of the remainder has been upholstered here. The display comprises magnificent sets of the various celebrated styles, upholstered in gorgeous silks and plush, and handsome sets equally beautiful and highly finished.

"The National Policy forced Messrs. Stewart & White to abandon the importation of furniture, doubling, as it did, the duty. They saw that if they were to remain in the furniture business, they must do so as manufacturers. Their experience as such in this line has proved that the enormous duty of 35 per cent. was wholly unnecessary, and that the Canadian manufacturer without it could compete on even terms with the best makers of New York and Boston."

How contradictory. They could not compete with them before, but, under this Tariff, they have abandoned importing, and turned to manufacturing themselves. He summed up as follows:—

"One of their workmen is now making a bedroom set which will be shown at the exhibition, although it will be completed much earlier, which will challenge comparison with any \$1,000 set made by the most celebrated manufacturers in Boston, although they will be able to produce it for about half the Boston price. Persons desiring elegant and beautiful furniture need not go abroad for it, for they can buy it as cheaply in St. John as they can in New York, and save 35 per cent. duty besides."

Now, there is a declaration from an authority who is an out-and-out supporter of Free-trade. That ought to be considered as valuable testimony by our friends opposite.

MR. GUTHRIE: Is not that an advertisement? Is it not a paid business notice?

SIR SAMUEL L. TILLEY: No, it is not an advertisement. I will tell you

SIR SAMUEL L. TILLEY.