

was by the policy adopted by the right hon. gentleman who led the Liberal Conservative Party, as expressed in the resolution which he had offered to this House, and on which he, and the party serving under him, were prepared to take their stand before the people of this country. That was not a policy of selecting any one individual industry, but a national policy, combining all the interests of this country that required and deserved the fostering aid of Parliament. It was perfectly obvious that by that combination, and by that combination alone, the object could be attained. When the hon. member for Cape Breton, therefore, had an opportunity of doing something really effective in relation to this important question, he did not avail himself of it. He united with the Government and the party who had declared their unmitigated hostility to any measure by which the great depression in the coal-mining industry might be removed. The hon. gentleman voted down the resolution moved by the right hon. member for Kingston, which declared that it was the interest of this country that a fostering Protection should be given to the great agricultural, mining and manufacturing interests of Canada, and by a general policy, by an even-handed policy, one that would deal at the same time, and in the same just spirit, with all the great interests that required the aid of Protection, accomplish, in the only way in which it could be accomplished, the measure which the hon. member for Cape Breton appeared to support, by the resolution he had moved. He (Mr. Tupper) had said before, it would be paying a poor compliment to the hon. member to suppose that, by the resolution he had offered, he intended doing anything whatever in the interests of the coal owners of Nova Scotia, or of those directly interested in the prosecution of that great industry. The resolution was calculated to raise all the hostility, all the opposition that could be raised to that proposition in this House. Not content with asking that which the coal owners of Nova Scotia themselves asked, when they approached this House by a petition, he had gone further, and apparently

afraid that a large portion of the members of the Opposition would have voted for the resolution, if proposed in the terms of the petition, namely 50c. per ton, the hon. member had asked for the extreme measure of imposing a duty of 75c. per ton. He (Mr. Tupper) was not drawing upon his imagination. The hon. gentleman, with a frankness which did him credit, did not disguise from the House that his object was not to promote the interests of the coal owners, but to endeavour to embarrass the position of gentlemen on the Opposition benches. He seemed to doubt the right hon. member for Kingston; he wanted to know where he would be found, and where the other gentlemen on this side of the House would be found, but he did not want to test the position of the Government and their supporters. No, because the hon. gentleman knew the position of the Government, and only wanted to damage the members of the Opposition who were in favour of a duty on coal. He (Mr. Tupper) could only say that he was prepared to vote for this resolution, to vote for a duty of 75c. per ton on all the coal imported into this country; he was willing to go the entire length of this resolution. He believed it would be sound policy for the members on both sides to unite in support of this resolution. The important effect of adopting this policy would be to say to the great coal monopolists of the United States, that their coal coming into Canada would be met by a similar duty as that imposed on coal going into the United States, and the result would be like free admission of Canadian coal into the United States, and the free admission of United States coal into Canada. On its own merits he was prepared to support this resolution as a matter of sound policy, and as the only means by which this country could hope to have that free trade with the great republic lying alongside us, which was the only free trade that any country could long consent to have, namely, free trade on both sides. The only way to obtain reciprocity with the United States was by adopting a policy similar to theirs, by being able to negotiate with them, and say if they