

protest as strongly as possible against this increase of taxation on their people. The Finance Minister, under the assumption of wanting to raise \$2,100,000, had submitted a tariff to this House to tax the people of this Dominion to the enormous amount of \$7,000,000. They were not led to suppose that this would be the case at Confederation, or to believe that the country would be committed to a highly protective tariff like this, in the face of our connection with the Mother Country, with whom we had Free-trade. It was unfair to England, as well as to Canada, and such a proposition would not have been recognised at the time of the Union. In view of the fact that England's ports were open to us, and we had the advantage of Free trade with Great Britain, the discrimination the proposed tariff imposed against her, as well as the evil consequences, and the enormous burdens it placed on the people of the Dominion, it was the duty of the people of Canada to protest vigorously against the resolutions submitted by the Minister of Finance.

MR. GILLMOR.

April 4th, 1879.

MR. GILLMOR said the condition of parties was very much changed since the last Parliament. He did not envy the hon. gentlemen who occupied the Treasury benches or their supporters. If they had attained a majority by fair and honest representations, they were entitled to their position, and he did not envy them under these circumstances. If they deceived the people, and owed their position to misrepresentation, he envied them still less. He had never, during the five years he sat in Parliament, made reference to his own constituency, although he had seen members bringing in their own local difficulties; but he must say, now, with reference to his constituency, that the contest there was not waged on the policy now being discussed. The canvass made by his opponent was against himself personally, and the late Administration. The National Policy, as now presented, was but dimly hinted at. He had the

honour of having, among his constituents, the hon. the Minister of Public Works, who enjoyed an influence there belonging to any gentleman occupying such an exalted position. The hon. the Minister of Finance was also one of his constituents, and had visited his county on several occasions, and had received several addresses, and replied to them; he (Mr. Gillmor) had not had the honour of hearing him on those occasions, but he had read the addresses in the newspapers, and was satisfied that he only hinted at the National Policy. There was no duty upon flour, no duty upon corn, no duty upon meal, promised in any of his addresses there. But there was one thing which he promised in an address at St. Andrew's, and that was, that in six months from that time there would not be an idle man, woman, or child in the town of St. Andrew's. This was in reply to an address presented him by the town, when every one assembled to meet him—for wherever those great men went, there were always a good many that sought to bask in their smiles. He had never come down to that yet; he was not very wealthy, but he never yet "Wore the rags of any great man's looks, or fed upon their aftermeals;" and, therefore, as a rule, he generally received their opposition. The hon. the Finance Minister was an old acquaintance of his; about a quarter of a century ago he had the satisfaction of helping him into the first office which he filled. He believed personal good feeling still existed between them, but of late years his hon. friend, in his visits to Charlotte county, had not reciprocated former favours. In 1872 he visited his county, when he (Mr. Gillmor) thought he was sure to win. But, two days before the election, his hon. friend, in gratitude for past favours, made his visit, and the result was that he lost his election by a small majority. Still, he (Mr. Gillmor) made no charge at all against his hon. friend. It would be a pleasure to support him if he could conscientiously do so. He did not intend to weary the House by reading long lists of figures relating to the tariff question. He supposed there was no possibility of changing a vote in this Parliament; no amount of argument, and no amount of reason, or eloquence was going to change one vote upon this question.