

certainty of a future crop which will make this country envied and looked up to by every other country in the world. (Cheers.) Mr. Chairman, although our progress is great, we are still in the bud, hoping and believing that there will be an early flower and early maturity. And

Why are we not in Maturity

already? Three years is a short time, but in three years much has been done. Why, then, I ask, has not more been done? Because we have had an unscrupulous Opposition; because we have had an unpatriotic Opposition. (Loud cheers.) The gentlemen composing that Opposition have told capitalists, "It is no use your investing your money in manufactures in Canada, because the present Government will never last more than five years. A new vote of the people will sweep away all that, and we will return to power and adopt a free trade policy, and reverse that under which the country prospers to-day." That, in effect, has been their statement, and I tell you—and this is not a matter of supposition, but of certainty and knowledge on my part—that there are millions of dollars waiting to be invested in Canada; millions in England, and large sums in the United States, waiting to come to Canada, waiting to be invested in every kind of industry, in mines and in manufactures of every kind; but the capitalists say, "Your Opposition say that your policy is only the result of a temporary madness on the part of the people of Canada in 1878, because times were bad then, and that it will be reversed at the next election." (Cries of "Never, never.") They say that after the next election Sir John Macdonald and the National Policy will disappear, and we will have Reform purity, and economy, and free trade. (Renewed cries of "Never.") I hear you, gentlemen, and I know that you are right. Capitalists, men who have by hard work and great industry, but by slow degrees, collected capital, are naturally timid with reference to the investments they make. They do not like to put their money in an uncertain enterprise; and they have written to me, and to Sir Leonard Tilley, saying, "We are ready to invest large sums of money; Canada is a great field for enterprise; it is a country of all others where manufactures can be most successfully introduced and carried on, but we are told by Mr. Mackenzie"—and, sir, this was said in the Parliament of Canada in my hearing, and you will find it in the published debate—"that protection is a national folly and a national crime, and that it must be abandoned." Sir