

and for that item about a million dollars ought to be allowed. Deducting that million, \$9,000,000 would be left as our imports in 1866. They rose again in 1872 to over \$10,000,000; but in 1879-80 the imports of New Brunswick, as they appeared in the Public Accounts, were less than \$4,000,000, and last year our whole imports are put at only about \$6,000,000. If we were to take our average population, we would find, if our imports were to go on progressively, that we ought to have credit for \$12,000,000 or \$12,500,000, instead of about half that amount. This is not caused by the substitution in our markets of the manufactures of Canada for imported goods. A great inter-provincial trade has grown up; but I must say that it is a very one-sided trade. We import into the Lower Provinces to-day a vast amount of goods from the Upper Provinces—some of them Canadian manufactures, and some of them importations from the old country—part of these clothing made up in these Provinces. The articles imported into our Province from the Upper Provinces have displaced, not the articles which we imported from other countries, but the articles manufactured in our own Province; and to-day the manufacturers of New Brunswick are less prosperous than they were ten or twelve years ago. In the city of St. John there are fewer hands employed in skilled labor than there were ten or twelve years ago, as a result of this competition with the manufacturers of the Upper Provinces. The few articles they send down which take the place of those we formerly imported are coarse woollen goods, and lately some of the coarser cottons. The value of those I cannot fix exactly, but if you put it at \$1,000,000 or \$1,500,000, that will be the outside figure. Beyond that, a very large quantity of the goods we consume must be imported goods; and the change produced by the Tariff is this, that the merchants of Quebec, Montreal and other parts of the Upper Provinces, supply the people of the Lower Provinces with imported goods as well as manufactured goods; and on these imported goods we pay the duties, not into our own Custom houses, but into the Custom houses of the Upper Provinces. On the face of the accounts we do not get credit for this, but the person who ought to be most familiar with this condition of things is the gentleman, who himself, as Provincial Secretary in 1866, collected the duty on \$10,000,000 of imported goods. It is the nature of things in all these new countries of ours that the purchasing power of the people should increase faster than the population; and the purchasing power has on the whole increased in the Lower Provinces, so that we must be purchasing more of those imported goods than we did eight or nine years ago. Therefore I say that when the Finance Minister asserts on the basis of these accounts that the people of the Maritime Provinces are paying considerably less taxes than they paid some years ago, he makes a statement which no Finance Minister, knowing of what he spoke, should have made. I must protest as strongly as I can in courteous, civil and parliamentary language, against such a perversion of the facts, such an attempt to mislead by stating the facts as they appear merely on the face of the Public Accounts, without adding other facts, which qualify those statements and which would enable Parliament and the country to form an accurate opinion on the subject. We in the Lower Provinces are paying more taxation than ever before. There is another way of estimating it and it is this: In 1866 our imports were \$10,000,000, and we paid but an average duty of 10 per cent., although the duties were raised just before we entered the Confederation. The Minister of Railways claims credit for being a protectionist and for having raised the duties in his Province. The duties were increased in the Maritime Provinces and reduced in Lower Canada. On these \$10,000,000 we collected about \$1,000,000. The Dominion Tariff adopted in 1868-69 made the average duty on imports 12 per cent., and to-day it is 21 per

Mr. ANGLIN.

cent. Yet the Finance Minister, by his *per capita* shuffling, averaging and estimating, managed to cut down the *per capita* so as to make it smaller, when we are paying 21 per cent. on all goods dutiable and free, than it actually was under the 10 or 12 per cent Tariff. But the hon. gentleman will say, the imports are less than formerly, because to-day a large portion of the goods required and which were formerly imported is now manufactured in the country. That is a very broad assertion. We in the Lower Provinces believe that we pay more into the revenue, and that when, by reason of the Tariff, we are compelled to buy goods manufactured in Canada, we are paying additional duties, perhaps not into the Treasury, but into the pockets of the manufacturer, and are, therefore, worse off, because if they were paid directly into the Treasury we would expect to obtain a return of a portion in some form or other. I do not think the Minister of Finance has succeeded in establishing the truth of his assertion that the rate of taxation has been reduced. Another mode which he has taken to arrive at this conclusion is by assuming that the present Census figures are correct and reliable. I suppose there is no man in Canada knowing anything of the circumstances under which the Census was taken, and the mode in which it was taken, who entertains any such opinion. We know even in our part of the country that very, very many persons are made to appear in that Census as residents of Canada who left years ago and have no intention to return. The system in which this Census was taken is called the *de jure* system, because it has nothing in it of just and right as *lucus a non lucendo*. This system has been so worked that hundreds of thousands have been added to the Census of Canada, and my impression is, from all I can learn, that instead of our population being 4,300,000, we have scarcely more than 4,000,000. The Minister of Railways will doubtless say that I am making an attack on Canada, injuring the country and destroying its reputation, but in Parliament it is our duty to speak what we believe to be the truth; and if the country cannot progress when the truth is known it cannot progress at all. Truth may be concealed for a time, but it will make itself known in spite of all opposition. On this side of the House we act on the principle that, in discussing these questions we should ascertain as far as possible what the truth is, and base our arguments not on what we wish the population and trade to be, but on the facts themselves. I feel bound to say that I do not believe we have as many people as the Census represents this country to have, because the Census has not been taken in the proper sense of the word *de jure*, but for some reason or other on an utterly fallacious system, one calculated under all the circumstances to create the impression that we have a great many more people than we have. I have heard, within a few hours that, one of the counties of my Province, not a large county, which was considered some years ago under the Mackenzie régime to be one of the most flourishing and prosperous, and which increased from 6,000 or 7,000 to 14,000 or 15,000 has declined in population within the last eighteen months at least 12 per cent. I know that the population of St. John is to-day less than it was ten years ago. I know from an examination of even those false Census reports, that the population driven out of St. John by the fire did not establish themselves anywhere in the neighboring districts, and that as the rate of increase in those districts had not been equal to the old rate of increase in the country, and that therefore the decline in St. John cannot be ascribed, as it will be attempted to be ascribed, to the effects of the great fire. From St. John we have lost not merely the 2,800 people which the Census shows to be the decline of population as compared with ten years ago, but we have lost also the large natural increase which took place there during some seven or eight of those years. I believe that within two years we have lost from St. John and the