

barley, oats, peas and beans, to which, if they applied the new tariff, they found the total amount of increase on Protection to be \$9,337.40. Under the new tariff it might be supposed that their own farmers would be called upon to supply a portion of the articles referred to, provided the farmers of Ontario did not take the place in their markets now supplied by the Americans; but, giving the Finance Minister the full benefit of the measure of protection afforded to their farmers, under this new tariff, what did they find? That, dividing the sum named among forty-two thousand farmers in New Brunswick, as shown by the last census, they were protected to the extent of about twenty cents per head. It was true they would be told that the tariff had been reduced on the articles of molasses and tea, but really this reduction was so infinitesimally small in the face of the great increase on every article they consumed, that it was an insult to their intelligence to name it. If the Minister of Finance had any regard for the promises made by his party during the elections, and was himself desirous of benefitting the farmers of New Brunswick, he would suggest to him the increase of one or one and a-half cents per pound on the article of pork—the only article upon which an increase of duty would be likely to benefit the farmers. It was true that about one-fifth of all the American pork imported into this Dominion found its way into the Province of New Brunswick, and, while the duty of one cent per pound had answered the purposes of a revenue tariff, it had utterly failed in the way of protecting the farmers. He (Mr. King) did not wish to be considered as advocating Protection, but, on the principle of fair play, he would ask, for the farmers of his county, the same kind of protection the Finance Minister was willing to accord to the clockmakers of Hamilton, or the manufacturers of patent medicines in St. John. He would also remind the hon. gentleman that hides, wool, and eggs were all products of New Brunswick farms, and ought, in all fairness to the farmers, to have been subjected to duty. Farmers in New Brunswick, including their families and labourers, comprised very nearly two-thirds of the population,

and would pay, if they were able, considerably more than one-half of the increased cost of goods under the new tariff, which in New Brunswick alone would amount to an enormous sum, and for which they got no corresponding benefits. The Minister of Finance, in his Budget speech, knowing, as he did, that the tariff would not be acceptable to any class save the manufacturers, deemed it prudent to make a promise for the future. In referring to the article of tea, knowing the promises that had been made during the elections, and not fulfilled, the Finance Minister now told them that, if their policy had the desired effect, next year he proposed to place tea on the free list. He (Mr. King) would say that, if the policy had the effect of lessening the importation of foreign goods by giving an impetus to home manufactures, it would certainly be found that the revenue would decrease in proportion, and, unless the Government really contemplated lopping off something in the expenditures on public works, they would most assuredly find themselves compelled to increase the duties on the necessities of life rather than to decrease them. He would say that there had been a time in his life when he was as willing to echo the sentiments of the Minister of Finance as hon. gentlemen on the opposite side of the House were now willing to applaud everything he said or did, and, had he not discovered that the hon. gentleman was not infallible, or anything like it, he might yet be found willing to support him. It was true that, as the Minister grew older, he became more cautious, as exhibited by him in his closing remarks in his Budget speech a few days since, in which, while picturing to their minds the glorious future for the far west of this country, under this National Policy, he made this reservation—that, if he was not over-sanguine, and if his friends were not over-sanguine, these results would most certainly follow. He (Mr. King) would now read, for the benefit of hon. gentlemen opposite, an extract from a speech delivered by that hon. gentleman during the Confederation campaign, and reported in the *St. John Telegraph* of December 21st, 1864. Referring to the prospects of New Brunswick under Confederation, he gave utterance, at the time, to the following:—