

there is not an hon. gentleman in this House to-day who does not know that the decision of the people of this country to maintain this policy in all its integrity would be to bring in additional millions; and those additional millions are coming in to-day, as the hon. gentleman knows. Industry after industry is being established, capitalist after capitalist is coming in. I can myself name one concern which is bringing in a million of British capital to establish an industry, not a dollar of which would have been seen in this country if my hon. friend's confident predictions had not proven to be well-founded, and the people had not at the polls confirmed the policy of the Administration. I had not the good fortune to hear the opening remarks of the hon. gentleman opposite, but I judge that he wants to narrow the question down to statements made with reference to the iron industry. Why, Sir, there was no want of candor. My hon. friend stated that the iron industry was one that the Government judged to be of great importance, for the reason that the wealth created by the development of this kind of industry, is almost wholly devoted to payment for labor. Thus it became an industry almost above all others that deserved the fostering care of the Government, if, by public aid, parties could be induced to bring in their capital and develop the enormous resources which Providence has given us in the vast deposits of iron ore that exist in the different parts of the Dominion. My hon. friend stated that the Government were considering that question. But he stated with great candor to this House that it was believed, if sufficient protection were given to that industry, a great amount of capital would be brought in and applied specially to its development. Having carefully considered the question, my hon. friend came to the conclusion, and the Government adopted his conclusion, that we would be justified in giving, in the best and least objectionable way, that protection to the iron industry which is found to be necessary in order to be able to give it full and ample development. A great amount of capital has been brought into this country in the development of the iron industry as it is, and a great struggle has been carried on to maintain it, and the amount of protection offered of \$2 per ton has not been sufficient to encourage additional capital being brought into the country, or even scarcely to maintain the industries already started. Under these circumstances, the policy propounded by my hon. friend, with the same confidence as that with which he propounded the National Policy will be attended, I believe, with equally good results. I know of no measure, after the most careful investigation of this question, that can be adopted—no single point to which my hon. friend can turn his attention as inviting and developing industry, which will give a greater amount of employment, in proportion to the industry itself, to the people of this country, than the protection proposed to be given to the development of our iron industry. I have no doubt my hon. friend will receive the same support from this House in this measure that he has received in the great change in our fiscal policy which, four years ago, he submitted to this House. I have no doubt the result will be equally satisfactory, and that the voice of the sovereign people of this country will, when the opportunity comes, endorse this policy just as emphatically as, on a recent occasion, they endorsed the National Policy.

Mr. BLAKE. I am sure we are all glad to hear the old voice singing the old tune, delivered with some of that old time vigor, not to say vehemence and breadth of expression, with which those who have sat here some time are familiar. I told the hon. gentleman, when he began, he could not have been here at the beginning of the debate, or he would have omitted some things that he said, because it will be remembered by those who were present then, that I enquired of the hon. gentleman at the commencement whether his statement as to his having been in communication with parties who were proposing to invest millions

in the country if the policy were maintained, applied to the proposal on the subject of the iron question, and he answered: "Yes, it did." I did not hear him say exclusively, but that it did apply to that.

An hon. MEMBER. That is the whole case.

Mr. BLAKE. It is not the whole case. No doubt the hon. member for Colchester, (Mr. McLellan) who represents the iron works, conceived it was the whole case; but the hon. member for Halifax ought to have taken a broader view, even though Colchester does lie in the limits of Nova Scotia. The whole case is, that, having in his eye, thought and mind the persons who were proposing to invest millions in the iron industry, the hon. gentleman said maintenance is the condition; but now we find it is not maintenance, but the aggravation and the extension of the policy in a manner that he does not venture to propose to the House to-day that that was the reason of the transaction. There is another point. We have been more than once reminded, and reminded with propriety—although those who reminded us ought to have had their mouths closed by the observations they have made—that persons who have engaged in commercial or manufacturing enterprises must be competent for the task, and that no Government, no Parliament, no Tariff even, can protect from disaster those who do not bring to the accomplishment of their proposed ventures, those qualities of mind, and that vigor, experience, determination and good judgment, which are essential to the execution of them. The Government has said: "We do not pretend to be able to keep every man from failing, to give every man success; all that we give is a fair chance, and the rest depends entirely upon energy, discernment and good judgment." Now, what will the hon. Minister of Railways think when I tell him that amongst those things that were developed in the discussion before he came here, the men whom it is proposed to introduce into this country to develop this general enterprise, which he says has required and will require so much on the part of those who develop it to succeed—that the men whose application has received the favorable consideration of the hon. Minister, are so short sighted, so dull, understand so little the true bearings and conditions of this country, that they actually believe, in what they call their minds, that the duty on coal increases the cost.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. I will narrow the question down to the iron question, and stand upon that alone. When we are dealing with the hon. gentleman who has just taken his seat, we are dealing with a man of no ordinary ability, and whose professional position places him where he can cross-question a witness, and if possible get that witness to state what is not the truth. Members of the legal profession understand that perfectly well, and that hon. gentleman put into my mouth what I never said, and asked this House to condemn me. He said I came down here and said to the House that these men who were anxious to bring in their capital, said: "If you continue the present duty on iron we will come in with our millions."

Mr. BLAKE. To maintain the policy.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. I ask the hon. gentleman to point to any statement of mine to that effect; it would be utterly inconsistent with the facts of the case. The hon. gentleman knows well that an application had been sent to the Government signed by forty members of the House to increase the duty on iron. What answer did I make? Did I say, as I would have said were the statement of the hon. gentleman true: "You cannot have a cent more." No; but I said that the Government, as anxious as we were to develop this industry, would give it between this and the next meeting of Parliament, the most careful consideration. That was the answer. If he had said these capitalists were prepared to come in here under the