

Columbia will be included. The object the Government had in view was to obtain such information as could be secured between the first of June and the first of January, with reference particularly to the more important manufacturing centres. It was not intended to take in the whole of the Dominion, but only the principal manufacturing centres, and this will explain also why, as regards the Maritime Provinces, more prominence was given to St. John, Halifax and other leading points than to less central points. If any supplementary enquiry be made, of course it will embrace British Columbia.

Mr. BLAKE. I have observed the defect in the report to which the hon. gentleman alludes, but I have imagined a different explanation of it from that to which the hon. gentleman alludes. I thought that in the mind of the Government, their exports were entirely overshadowed by their great importing industries, especially the importing of Chinese.

#### DAILY ISSUE OF THE DEBATES.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I desire to call the attention of the *Hansard* Committee to the fact that several journalists complain that they never receive the *Hansard* for a week after it is published. We agreed to give up one of our additional numbers for the sake of supplying the journals. If they are to be supplied at all, I think they should be supplied promptly.

Mr. WHITE (Cardwell). We did not agree as a matter of fact to give up anything. The Committee desired to give up one of the bound volumes in order to supply the newspapers. But the distribution takes place in the same way as the ordinary Sessional Papers, and sometimes some two or three papers or the issues of two or three days go out together, instead of one going out every day, as it should.

#### THE BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

Mr. MITCHELL. I should like to ask the Government if they can give us any idea how long this protracted debate on the tariff will continue. I understand that a list of fifteen or twenty speakers has been made by the whips, and the people of the country are anxious to know when we shall get to business.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. We have no rule for shortening the debates.

#### WAYS AND MEANS—THE TARIFF.

House resumed adjourned debate on motion of Sir Leonard Tilley to go into Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. BURNS. Convinced as I am that the subject under discussion is pretty well exhausted, I rise with a great deal of diffidence, and feel that in doing so I am perhaps not only trespassing upon the patience and temper of the House and on our time here, but that I will cast but very little new light on any matter which has been referred to. The subjects which have been referred to by the Minister of Finance are certainly of very great importance, and have been very fully dealt with by members on both sides of the House. Every argument which has been advanced by gentlemen on the opposite side, every statement which has been made by them, not only in the present debate but in years gone by, has been answered not only by the gentlemen who sit on this side of the House but by the country, and by the country more than once. Therefore, as it would be only to take up the time of the House to again answer them, and as I am especially reminded of that fact by the enquiry just addressed to the Government by the hon. member for Northumberland, I will only occupy a short time as I am as anxious as any hon. gentleman can

be to proceed to the serious business which has brought us here. There were a few observations made by gentlemen on the other side, which I can only characterise as reckless statements, which I think make it necessary that some one who is in some degree conversant with some of the matters referred to should make a few remarks in reply to them. The situation has been described by the hon. member for Queen's, Prince Edward Island (Mr. Davies), and the hon. member for Queen's, New Brunswick (Mr. King), as grave and gloomy. They have told us that the taxation of the country is increasing. I think they went to the length of stating that taxation had increased at a greater rate than in any other country, at even four times the rate that it had increased in any other country. They stated also that the exodus was going on at a far greater rate than at any other period in the history of Canada, and many other things. I will attempt to show by some statistics that I have prepared that, so far as the Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia are concerned—and it is to those two Provinces that I intend to confine my remarks—the gentlemen I have referred to, as well as the member for Brant (Mr. Paterson), who seems to pay special attention to those Provinces, are in error. They have attempted to show that previous to the election of 1882, the imposition of duty, or, as we say, the readjustment of the tariff, would have the effect of crushing the industries of those Provinces, that the effect of the National Policy would be to injure the lumber trade, to injure those engaged in the fishing industry and those engaged in farming. The statements which I will read to the House will go to prove I think that under the operation of that policy, those special industries have not been destroyed, but that on the contrary they have increased and prospered. We find a large increase in the exports of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. We find that in 1878, the export of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia amounted to \$13,768,810, and in 1884, under the influence of this National Policy, which was to crush out the lumber trade and the fisheries and the farming industry, they had increased to \$17,352,428, an increase of \$3,583,618 in the short space of six years. I might remind the House that this increase is made up altogether of the very things which this policy was to stamp out of existence—lumber, and the products of the fisheries, and the produce of the mine and the product of the farm. In 1878 the export of fisheries from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia—for I take them together—amounted to \$5,197,840. In 1884, they had increased to \$6,213,152, or an increase of over a million dollars. The product of the mines in 1878 was exported to the extent of \$652,231, while in 1884 it had reached \$954,980, or an increase of \$302,749. The lumber exports of 1878, from those two Provinces were \$5,573,469, and in 1884, under this National Policy they had increased to \$7,317,647, or an increase of \$1,744,178. Grouping together the agricultural and animal products, we find that in 1878 the exports were \$910,252; in 1884, \$1,697,130, or an increase of \$786,878. The gross increase in the exports of minerals, fish, lumber and farm produce from 1878 to 1884 was \$3,849,117. Now, Sir, if the National Policy was so disastrous in its effects as those hon. gentlemen prophesied it would be, some years ago, and as they assert it is to-day, I ask why it is that our exports of products have gone on increasing? In proof of the fact that our increased exports have been productive of an accumulation of wealth to the country, and as some proof that the wealth of the country has increased, I propose to read some figures with reference to the state of those Provinces as regards the amount of extra capital which they have now compared with that which they had in 1878. In 1878 the balances in the Government Savings Banks in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island were \$4,371,310.60; in 1884 they had increased to \$12,212,675, or an increase of