

Here is another:

"R. Taylor, of the Halifax boot and shoe factory, carries on extensive works and manages with skill and prudence a very large business. His works are located on the continuation of Brunswick Street (formerly Barrack Street), and his warerooms, etc., are on Hollis Street. He has been in business fourteen years and has made considerable progress during that period, adding from time to time to his outfit machines of the latest and most improved designs. The proprietor, judging from the tenor of his remarks, is not an ardent Unionist nor yet an admirer of the National Policy. He says:—"Business is dull. Confederation is one cause of this dullness, and the National Policy is another. The duties on certain articles used in manufacturing boots and shoes, such as serge, elastic, and findings in general, is objectionable. These articles are not made in the Dominion, nor even in the United States, except, perhaps, in the case of a few articles. There is not sufficient encouragement to warrant any one engaging in their manufacture. We get our supplies from England. Serge was duty free before the National Policy came into force."

That does not say much in favor of the National Policy for that industry.

Mr. BOWELL. It shows the impartiality of the report.

Mr. VAIL. I am glad that it is impartial in one respect. He has made a pretty fair report, but he has left out, as I before said, what is a very important thing, and that is a statement of the number of factories closed in the Province of Nova Scotia since the National Policy was introduced.

"J. P. Mott & Co. carry on a large spice factory and lime and soap works in Dartmouth, but the leading proprietor was decidedly reticent, considering that neither the country nor any one or more individuals in it had any right to a knowledge of his business. That the works were started some 37 years ago is all the knowledge that could be gathered from a direct interview with Mr. Mott."

I may say knowing that gentleman I am pretty sure that is just about what he would say. Here is a statement from a firm who have always been Unionists, and who have, I believe, been friends of the present Government, and would like to be yet if they had not seen that the present policy was injuring many of the industries in the Province of Nova Scotia instead of benefiting them:—

"Gordon & Keith's furniture factory is the successor of a cabinet making business conducted prior to 1860, by Thompson & Esson, in the old-fashioned style. The new proprietors, in a little while, revolutionized the business. They secured spacious warerooms and established a factory, into which they introduced the latest machinery. Their enterprise and pluck received fitting reward in an enlarged and lucrative business, the principal market being Nova Scotia. Mr. Keith, of this firm, was pleased to remark as follows:—

I see the senior member for Halifax is present, and I am sure he will at least take what Mr. Keith says as very near the truth.—

"The National Policy operates badly in our business. It imposes duties on many things used in the manufacture of our goods, such as upholstery goods, hair-cloth, curled hair, covering materials of all kinds, British mirror plates, castors and furniture hardware generally. With respect to hair-cloth and curled hair, it is a well known fact that they are not, and as respects the latter, cannot be supplied in the Dominion. The same may be said of the mirror plates. Then, as to the castors, it is a fact that they can be purchased in the United States and laid down in Halifax, duty paid, at a lower figure than that at which Smart, of Brockville, who has undertaken their manufacture, can supply them. Then, as to the other articles of furniture hardware, so long as they are not made in the Dominion, they should at least come in free, or under a modified rate. In fact, if our tariff rates on the articles named were reduced, we could secure an entrance into the Newfoundland market. The Americans can now undersell us in our own market in the matter of hair mattresses."

Here is another:

"F. Mumford & Son, Dartmouth, engaged in the manufacture of ships' knees and in general forging. They complain that ships' knees are allowed to come into the Dominion duty free, and that the duty on coal has increased the cost of that article from \$1.85 to \$2.25 at the mines, and, per consequence, advanced the cost of knee manufacturing. Messrs. Mumford & Son have a commodious establishment, the heavy hammers and other appliances in which are driven by steam."

That is the only reference I shall make to these reports.

It being six o'clock, the Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. VAIL.

After Recess.

FIRST READINGS.

Bill (No. 106) for the relief of Alice Elvira Evans (*from the Senate*).—(Mr. Edgar.) On a division.

Bill (No. 107) for the relief of George Louis Emil Hatzfeld (*from the Senate*).—(Mr. Kilvert.) On a division.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. I would wish to divide the House on these Bills, but the House is so thin this evening that I do not think it would be fair to do so. Therefore, I make this statement with reference to these and any other Bills of the same character which may come up this evening.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE—THIRD READING.

Bill (No. 37) further to amend the Act to incorporate the South Saskatchewan Valley Railway Company.—(Mr. Robertson, Hamilton.)

SECOND READING.

Bill (No. 97) for the relief of Fairy Emily Jane Terry (*from the Senate*).—(Mr. Taylor.) On a division.

WAYS AND MEANS—THE TARIFF.

Mr. VAIL. When you left the Chair, Sir, I was referring to the different industries that had been reported upon by the commissioner appointed to make enquiry into their working in the Province of Nova Scotia. I stated that, so far as the Province was concerned, the National Policy had been of no advantage whatever, and that no industries of any consequence had been established in addition to what existed under the former policy. I did not refer to New Brunswick, because I know very little about the condition of the industries there, and because the hon. members for Queen's and Charlotte, N.B., went very fully into that subject a few days ago, and I hope their speeches will be read by every person in that Province. But I may state that the cotton manufactory in St. John, N.B., has, I understand, gone into liquidation; so that old concern, which was in active operation for several years prior to the introduction of the protective policy, and was doing a prosperous business, has had to go down under this policy, which was especially designed, the Government said, to build up and foster. Hon. gentlemen on the other side of the House are very fond of asserting that this discussion is confined to the question of protection *versus* free trade. Their idea evidently is to lead the country to suppose that the policy of the Opposition is a free trade policy. Why, Mr. Speaker, to talk now about a free trade policy, when we are only about 4,500,000 people, with a debt of \$250,000,000, on which we are obliged to pay interest besides raising a sufficient amount to cover our annual expenditure on public works and for carrying on the Government, would be simply nonsense. We must raise a considerable amount in this country, I am sorry so say, for a good many years to come, and a revenue tariff must necessarily, in the present state of things, be a protective tariff. Therefore I hope that hon. gentlemen who talk about protection *versus* free trade will in future discuss the question of protection *versus* a revenue tariff. Some hon. gentlemen opposite would lead the House to suppose that there was no discord at present among the different Provinces, that everything was working harmoniously, and that the people were contented, prosperous and happy. But one of the hon. gentlemen, the member for Queen's, P.E.I., who preceded me on this side, pointed out that in the city of St. John, N.B., at a meeting of the Board of Trade, very strong resolutions were passed in favor of joining the United States. In