

thousand superficial feet. Now, let them apply this to the production of all kinds of lumber in New Brunswick, which, reckoned as deals and other descriptions usually exported, amounted to 400,000,000 annually. To this might safely be added 100,000,000 for home consumption, making the total 500,000,000 superficial feet, which, figured at the increased cost as shown, gave the enormous tax of \$300,000 additional on this industry alone, and yet they were told, by the Minister of Finance, that this leading industry had been cared for. He (Mr. King), on his arrival here to attend to his Parliamentary duties, was somewhat surprised to find that, in an interview had with the Minister of Finance by gentlemen representing the great lumber interests of the Dominion, they were reminded that the lumber interest was considered by him as a waning one. In the remarks made by him in delivering his Budget speech he alluded to it as follows:—"The time has arrived when we must consider whether we are to be hewers of wood and drawers of water for our American neighbours; whether we are to continue to produce more lumber than we can find a market for in Great Britain, or than the United States will take from us at fair prices." These remarks, coupled with the fact that, when the tariff was introduced, in the resolutions in which the Government asked the power from this Parliament, to arrange for reciprocity with the United States in various articles, including coal, no mention was made of the article of lumber, it being totally ignored, forced him to conclude that the lumber business was considered a waning one, and, as it was really necessary somebody should be sacrificed in the introduction of this National Policy, it had been decided that the lumbermen were the class to suffer. He would admit that the business of lumbering, like many other branches of business, had been overdone, but it was equally true that it would cure itself, and required no tinkering on the part of a Government who were powerless to aid it. It had been asserted that, under the fostering care of this tariff, the iron industry would assume large dimensions. He hoped it might; but, when the time arrived that the article of iron be-

came a drug in our markets, in a time of depression, would the hon. gentleman, if he happened to be the then Finance Minister, attempt to apply the principle he now applied to the lumber business, to legislate it out of existence? He (Mr. King) would now, for the sake of argument, accept the situation, and would assume that the estimate which the Finance Minister placed upon the lumber business, was the correct one; but, in doing so, would remind him that the other, and greater interest, in which his constituents were interested, had fared no better at his hands. The farmers of his county had been told by the Minister of Finance, and other gentlemen, for whose utterances he might fairly be held responsible, that, under the National Policy, they would be protected, that everything they raised upon their farms would suddenly go up in price; that articles they consumed, which were not produced in this country, would be lowered, and that the price of manufactured goods would not be increased. That a duty on flour would not be imposed, was urged upon them by gentlemen seeking their votes. They were to be protected from the Americans, who, it was said, were flooding their markets. He (Mr. King) was prepared to say to the Minister of Finance that, in so far as the county which he represented, and in which that gentleman had the honour of being born, was concerned, the promises made were a delusion and a snare, which could be plainly shown. He would call the attention of hon. members interested to a statement he held in his hand, computed from the Report of Trade and Navigation, in which he would show the amount of the increased protection to the farmers of his native Province. He would explain to hon. gentlemen that the duty on cornmeal and flour would operate as a tax upon the large majority of the agricultural classes in his Province, as in nearly every case the farmers were consumers of American and Canadian flour, and, therefore, he need not include those articles. The other agricultural products imported into New Brunswick last year, on which it was proposed to increase the duty, were as follows: Hops, lard, bacon and hams, preserved meats, animals, bran, potatoes, other vegetables,