

so on that occasion. But, Sir, the hon. gentleman was successful, and what was his first move? The leader of the Opposition at Cobourg said that what they proposed to do was to foster industries by taking the duties off all articles which went into manufacturing, by increasing the free list. But what did the Government of which the hon. gentleman and the ex-Minister of Finance were members do when they had the power? Did they promote the industries of Canada by taking the duties off articles such as I have mentioned, and by enlarging the free list? No, Sir, but they struck a heavy blow at the industries of Canada by imposing duties on a large number of articles which entered into the consumption of manufactures in this country, taking them out of the free list and imposing duties on them. Then, Sir, I need not say that another step of these hon. gentlemen in the same direction was the reimposition of the duties on tea and coffee. These hon. gentlemen now profess—as hon. gentlemen on that side of the House are very apt to profess when they have not any power to deal with the subject—a deep anxiety for the poor man; but who does not remember, when they brought down a measure to levy duties on tea and coffee, that they banded themselves together to a man and voted down the resolution which was proposed by my hon. friend, who then and now represents Montreal, with the view of having these duties so adjusted as to lighten the tax on the poor man. Under their Tariff the rich man, who is able to drink tea that costs 90 cents or \$1 a pound, had to pay no larger tax into the revenue, and had to contribute no more to the revenue, than did the poor man, who was only able to drink tea worth 25 cents a pound. These gentlemen were then deaf to the claims and difficulties of the poor man, and without compunction voted down the resolution that would have modified the unfairness of the Tariff, which was putting a heavy duty on tea and coffee. Well, Sir, they then imposed taxes on articles which were in the free list, and they burthened the industries of the country with exactions; and at the very time when all was changed, and when all was changing, these hon. gentlemen imposed duties on the shipbuilding industry, and they imposed duties on the great bulk of our industrial community by the levying of a tax on tea and coffee, and struck off the protection which had existed with reference to Canadian trade in tea, by removing the differential duty which had hitherto enabled this trade to be carried on in Canada. Everything that these hon. gentlemen could do to make Boston and New York the commercial capitals of Canada they did do, and with what result? With the result, as I have said before, that during the five years that these hon. gentlemen