

by making some reference to a graveyard. He said he had been over to Hull and had made an examination of that new avenue, named Laurier Avenue, and he found that, instead of its leading to a graveyard, it led away from a graveyard. Well, I think it depends very much on which way the hon. gentleman was walking, and what time of the evening it was. May it not be possible that, when he examined it, he was going backwards? Then he went on to give us what he regarded as a beautiful epitaph that might be placed over the remains of the hon. member for West Assiniboia at some future time, when he would be laid in that silent place. I thought at the time, that the people of Canada, remembering the professions of his friends the Reform party, before they came into power, as to what they would do for the farmers and for Canada, remembering their promises to effect economies that would redound not only to the credit of the party, but to the benefit of the people of the country, how they would reduce the expenditure in this line and in that line, how they would effect sweeping reductions in the tariff in the interests of the farmers—I say, that the people of Canada, remembering all this, and remembering how little the Government has done in fulfilment of their promises, would be inclined to say that the sooner they are buried in oblivion, the better it will be for the country. If their remains were interred in that noted graveyard where that beautiful avenue has been named after the leader of their party, I think a proper epitaph to put up over them would be that which was said to be put up by the Cornishman over his wife after she died. It was this:

My wife is dead, and here she lies,
Nobody laughs and nobody cries;
Where she has gone or how she fares,
Nobody knows and nobody cares.

And so it would be with the Reform party. If they were buried in that notable place, I am sure the country would say:

Where they have gone and how they fare,
Nobody knows and nobody cares.

The hon. gentleman went on to show that, as a considerable number of agricultural implements had been imported, last year, from the United States, therefore the tariff which we now have, might fairly be considered a revenue tariff. Now, I do not know what impression he meant to convey, either to the House or to the country, by that argument, because his party declared, before they came into power, that their tariff would be at least a revenue tariff, that they would make such sweeping reductions in it as would make it a revenue tariff. Now, he adds that about one-half the implements used have been brought in from the United States, therefore the tariff might fairly be considered a revenue tariff. I presume, he meant the people to infer that they

ought to be satisfied with the tariff we have to-day, that they ought to be inclined to believe that the present Government had, at least, been consistent in promising that the tariff would be a revenue tariff. But it is interesting to know what that hon. gentleman thought of the requirements of the situation before that tariff was made. I have here a copy of the Winnipeg "Tribune," which, I believe, is his paper, and I may be allowed to read to the House the view that he entertained as to what the western farmer was entitled to expect from his party, in the event of their coming into power. This article was written in December, 1896, before their tariff was introduced, and it is an interesting article to read at the present time, especially in view of what the hon. gentleman has said here to-day with regard to the amendment that is moved by the hon. member for West Assiniboia. Here is what I find in the Winnipeg "Tribune" on December 1st, 1896:

It would probably be unfair to prejudge the Dominion Government in the matter of tariff reforms, but to those of us who have entertained a deep conviction that the advent to power of the Liberal party meant sweeping reductions in the tariff—

And he goes on to speak of agricultural implements afterwards, upon which we now know there has been no reduction at all:

—and the placing of a large number of important articles upon the free list, the action of the Government in sending a committee of its Cabinet about the country to take evidence as to the tariff, has a rather disquieting effect. One would have thought that the leaders of the Liberal party knew enough about the tariff and its myriad of iniquities to effect a reformation without going to the manufacturers and saying in effect, "Will you tell us just what you can stand in the way of reductions? It seems to us that while no harm may probably be done by the inquiry, it is not calculated to inspire the confidence of the people who felt confident that tariff reform of a sweeping character would follow in the wake of the advent to power of the Liberal Government.

Mr. Speaker, how that hon. gentleman and his friends must have been disappointed, when they found that these sweeping reductions did not take place which were promised in the event of the advent of the Liberal party to power.

It may be that the Government will redeem the pledges made so profusely in the speeches of the Liberal leaders for the past five or ten years, as well as the promises contained in campaign literature.

It may be the wail of the future, but evidently they have not done it up to the present time.

We can only await the meeting of the House next February, when the Tariff Bill will doubtless be produced. There is no denying the fact, however, that there is considerable uneasiness felt in many quarters that the Government will not go as far in the matter of reforming the tariff as the country had been led to expect that