

pride and satisfaction that the Empire possessed in Canada a country of enormous resources, of great fertility, a country that could furnish to those whose necessities compelled them to leave Great Britain, homes that would be worthy of themselves, and where they would have the means of building up that same Empire of which they now formed a part. I say that there is no man in this country or out of it who knows anything of the subject who does not know that from that day to this the whole tone of the English press was altered. The increased amount of \$550,000 more, which my hon. friend the Finance Minister brought back to Canada for his three million 4 per cent. loan, sinks into utter insignificance compared with the value to Canada of the statements by Lord Beaconsfield respecting British emigration to this country, which has placed Canada in a position to obtain advantages which she never had before placed within her reach. Well, there was another difficulty: prices were going to be increased. Gentlemen opposite said: It is impossible you can create these industries, and bring manufactures into operation in this country without a vast increase in the prices. The hon. gentleman opposite, in one part of his speech to-night, used that argument, and showed how the poor people were taxed under this Tariff, but what did he say before he sat down? He said it was perfectly plain the manufacturer is not going to be so well off because he is going to be compelled to give higher wages; and he will have to give them to the men he employs. So the hon. gentleman had some consolation in the inevitable fact that this policy is to compel the bloated manufacturers and aristocrats to disgorge their means by increasing the wages that have to be paid to the operatives. What more did he say? He said they cannot afford to do it, because they cannot increase their prices. Now, I want to know what becomes of his argument as to increased prices? I was amused at the hon. gentleman's powers of imagination, which are so great that they ought to have led him to turn his attention to writing novels. I am sure he could not draw more largely upon his imagination in any work of fiction that could emanate from his pen than he drew upon it in these statements he

has made to the House to-night. He says there is a tax of \$70 or \$80 put upon the family of every operative in this country, and yet no revenue. Five-sixths of the people of the country pay \$70 or \$80 a family of taxation and yet there is no revenue. That is only one of the difficulties into which the hon. gentleman dropped in the course of as illogical a speech as I have ever listened to from any person in this House. The hon. gentleman has himself shown that, while we have fostered industries by giving this home market to our own people, we at the same time protect them against increased prices, because the competition between manufacturers themselves will induce them to furnish these goods at the lowest figure. Now, I ask if that is not the history of the past year? Because every man who knows anything of this country knows perfectly well that there has been a most striking advance in all the great leading industries of this country; I want to know if that has not at the same time been accompanied by as low prices for those various articles as we have had at any previous time. Prices may rise, they will rise, because the prosperity in the United States will prevent goods being furnished in that country at the same prices as they were before. But this increase of price will not be due to the protection afforded to the industry of this country, but will be restrained by the development of our manufactures. I want to know from the hon. gentleman, who thinks that that great country is in a state of Egyptian darkness, and that it will continue to suffer until it takes inspiration from the light that hon. gentleman will be able to shed, not only upon this benighted Canada of ours, but upon the great American Republic, why is that in Free-trade England the depression is so great? When I was there, I asked the Statesmen, the merchants, the manufacturers, the men of intelligence of all classes, what was the prospect of that country. Well, they said, it is dark enough. Well, I said, is there any day-light ahead at all? Yes, they said, there is one favourable indication, we believe, that things are taking a turn in the United States of America, and the moment they do we will feel the effect