

supply was much more easily obtained from American than Nova Scotian sources, must be borne in mind. Last year a contract was made by the Grand Trunk Railway Company for a supply of coal at various places, notably Montreal and Toronto, and the results were set forth in a speech which he held in his hand. Tenders for Nova Scotia coal were accepted by the Railway Company for Montreal, at \$3.96 per long ton on the wharf, or, adding 27 cents for cartage, to \$4.23 in the yard. In Toronto a tender for American coal was accepted at \$3.40 per short ton in the yard, or \$3.78 per long ton, being a difference, in favour of the United States coal, of 45 cents. Then, the cost of conveying coal from Montreal to Toronto would not, he thought, cost less than \$1.50 per ton, which, of course, must also be taken into account. Under ordinary circumstances it would be \$2. That applied to coal delivered at Montreal, Toronto, or Hamilton only. It did not apply to the large quantity of coal which would be consumed if Nova Scotia coal could be obtained west or north-west of those cities. That seemed to be conclusive as to the fact that 75c. a ton would not allow Nova Scotia coal to be laid down in the west, and if that would fail to bring Nova Scotia coal to Toronto or Hamilton, 50c. a ton would be less efficient.

Mr. PLATT said his constituents were much interested in the coal question. A large quantity of coal was consumed in Toronto. The depression in the United States had reduced the price of coal a great deal. In previous years the price of coal had been \$5 or \$6 a ton, and sometimes \$7 a ton. The usual price, last year, in Toronto had been \$5 and \$5.25, and this year it was much lower. These gentlemen from Nova Scotia wanted protection to coal, though they claimed to be Free-traders. This was very selfish. He (Mr. Platt) was willing to place a duty on coal when they got a reconstruction of the Tariff, such as was proposed by his hon. friend from Kingston, but he should vote against this selfish proposition. These gentlemen were looking to get the votes of their constituents, and wanted to be able to say that they

had brought forward a proposition to put a duty on coal. They ought to be ashamed of themselves. The people of Ontario were willing to put a duty on coal if they could get a readjustment of the Tariff.

SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD said he took the opportunity a day or two ago to say to the hon. gentleman at the head of the Government that he was ready to assist him in getting as much business through the House as rapidly as possible, but he might have made no such promise, as the majority, at least, did not seem wearied, and were apparently anxious to keep Parliament for some time longer. The Minister of Militia reopened the question of Protection that had been discussed for a week or more on the speech from the Throne, and also on his (Sir John A. Macdonald's) motion, and certainly he had not added anything to the stock of information on the subject. However, if hon. gentlemen opposite were determined to have the question discussed again they could have it discussed. The Minister of Militia had also tried to lead away the House from the discussion immediately before it. The reason of that was that he was in a difficult position. In the first place he was a Nova Scotia member, in the next place he was a member of the Government, and in the last place he was a member of Halifax; and, therefore, he had thought it well to fly away from the subject before the House and to open up the whole question. He (Sir John A. Macdonald) would not follow him into his discussion of the Washington Treaty, a matter which was settled, but would just refer to his statement that the policy of the United States was injurious to its trade, indeed, that it was so injurious that hundreds of thousands of people were leaving the country and flocking to Canada. He (Sir John A. Macdonald) thought the hon. gentleman, and he was not then so much fettered as he was now, in a communication to Sir Francis Hincks used these words:—

“Again, you are no doubt aware that the American Government, always alive to the interests of their people and all that relates to the prosperity of their country, have recently passed a Treasury order increasing considerably the drawback on white refined