

a preference in the British market, and see what an advantage you agriculturists will have. Everything you grow and everything you produce will be worth so much more per pound. Your beef and your pork will be worth just so much more, and if you elect me Prime Minister I will obtain that result for you.' Well, did he do that? Did he ask it? At a banquet given in Liverpool, did he not say: "I am ready to give you a preference and I want no *quid pro quo*. I want nothing of the kind.' He went there to get everything for the people of Canada and he came back here with nothing but a gold medal. He said, of course, that free trade is better for Great Britain and it is better for Canada also. I do not forget those things. We are told that the government of the country is the cause of our present prosperity. Can any gentleman within the hearing of my voice point out where they have assisted in any way whatever to bring about this prosperity? I have not heard any evidence of it yet. The hon. gentleman says that the government created a sentiment in favour of this country in Great Britain, and for that reason the British people buy more from us. Fancy the people of Great Britain eating more because they have a sentiment in our favour! The hon. gentleman further stated that Canada was not known in Great Britain until after Sir Wilfrid Laurier went there, and after that our products were looked for. The hon. gentleman said Canada was not known.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND—Hardly known.

Hon. Mr. McCALLUM—We are not going to swallow all that. We take it for what it is worth.

Hon. Mr. McMILLAN—It wants a little salt.

Hon. Mr. McCALLUM—Yes, and pepper too. When the premier goes over this summer, I hope he will have something better to show when he comes home. I hope he will not go over there for a certain purpose, and then change his mind and come back with a gold medal because he tells the people of England that Canada does not want a preference. In fact, he refused the preference before it was offered to Canada. We want nothing of Great Britain more

Hon. Mr. McCALLUM.

than British subjects are entitled to, and when the government talk about creating a sentiment by giving the manufacturers of Great Britain a preference, they are giving a preference for admitting silk and shoddy which should be made at home. The government of this country, we are told, have increased the prosperity of the people. How have they done it? They are deepening our canals, with a view to bringing the trade of the west by the St. Lawrence. That may come by and by, and the people of this country will get the benefit in proportion to the reduction of freight. But if we carry wheat from the western states by the St. Lawrence, do we get anything out of it? We do not get enough from the tolls to pay the lock tenders on one canal. I do not object to deepening the canals for the carrying of the trade of Canada, but when we are going crazy, as we are to-day, in the expenditure of money, it is time we began to see what we are getting for it. We have a large revenue, but it is the people's money, and it should be so judiciously expended, that it will be a benefit to Canada in the future. I question very much if the expenditure which we are making upon the canals, will be of great advantage to Canada. The government is digging a hole in the rock at Port Colborne. Years ago I brought pressure on the government to bring the level down to 14 feet on the mitre-sill; they were going to put it at 12 feet. Now, what are they doing? At Port Colborne, they are lowering the mitre-sill while they have any amount of rock to cut out before vessels can reach it. The result is now that that expensive piece of work in the aqueduct will have to be thrown away also if we are to get any more water than 14 feet in the Welland Canal. The people of this country should ask themselves what they are going to get out of this large expenditure of money. If we had a Canadian shipping with the owners living in this country, they could go all over the world, and whatever they earned above expenses would be brought to this country, and that and the lower freights is all we can make out of it. I am willing that Canada should pay her proportion to sustain the British empire in any part of the world, but have we created any sentiment in our favour in Great Bri-