

his speech, and one or the other must be wrong.

HON. MR. KAULBACH—I must be right.

HON. MR. McCLELAN—The article in which I happened to notice this statement, further says :—

“How completely our fiscal policy has failed in its professed objects, is shown by two facts: (1) that there is a decrease in the amount of English imports, and an increase in the amount of American imports; and (2) that taking the totals of the five years the average rate of duties on English imports is 19.37 per cent., and on American imports of only 14.80 per cent.

The marked tendency to trade with our neighbors is here shown so clearly that he may run who readeth it; and with such a palpable fact before us, who can doubt that the real interest of both Canada and the United States lies in cultivating the freest possible trade relations between them?”

My hon. friend from Lunenburg twice, in his address, remarked that agricultural implements are no more expensive anywhere in Canada to-day than they were in 1878. If he will allow me I will read to him something that I think will convince him to the contrary, as well as other hon. gentlemen who alluded to the same subject, and who mentioned particularly that they were not dearer in our North-Western territory. I shall read from a newspaper published in the North-West.

HON. MR. HOWLAN—What is the name of it?

HON. MR. McCLELAN—The name of it is the *Regina Leader*; and the editor, I see his name at the top, is Mr. Nicholas Flood Davin. That ought to be a good authority for the hon. gentleman.

HON. MR. HOWLAN—I am glad that you are pleased with him.

HON. MR. McCLELAN—The article in question is in the form of a letter, but given in the editorial column. It is from a gentleman who was formerly a resident of New Brunswick, and who was standard bearer for the Conservative party in the county of Sunbury, at the last general election. Being unsuccessful in the contest, he

moved to the North-West a short time ago. He was a very strong supporter of the Government, and of their general policy, and especially of the National Policy, with all its embellishments. He says :—

“I first have to say I did not make a general slaughter of the National Policy. In speaking of the National Policy, I said that many articles were cheaper, including cotton and woollen goods, and that living to-day was cheaper in Canada than at any former period.”

Hon. gentlemen must see he has the same sound that they have; he must be “true blue.”

HON. MR. HOWLAN—What is the date of that paper?

HON. MR. McCLELAN—It is the 17th March of this year. He continues :—

It is true I did take exception to the tariff on agricultural implements as being against the interest of the settlers in the North-West, and I am firm in that opinion, Mr. Wright notwithstanding to the contrary. If my memory serves me aright, I did not ask for a change in the tariff, however desirable such a thing might be on some articles. I only suggested that inasmuch as we were not, and never could be, a manufacturing people, that we should have some consideration given us in lieu of the high tariff on implements. Certainly, there could be nothing radically wrong in that.

Further on he remarks :—

It is said there is a great deal in a name. These men who had to pay the larger price were “small farmers.” In the name in this connection the matter is reversed, the big farmer paying the small price and the small farmer *vice versa*. Implement firms put a premium on big farmers’ patronage, and the big-farm policy was the policy that got Mr. Wright his binder so cheaply. Now, the N. P. as a national policy for the Dominion of Canada I am in favor of, and always have been; but I do not think it is advantageous to the North-West, and I am at a loss to see how any man can think it is. We can’t manufacture a single article, not even an axe handle; we are left entirely at the tender mercies of the Ontario manufacturers. I have always been under the impression that the N. P. was to encourage home industries, and in the Eastern Provinces it has done so; hence my remark that it was life to the east.

HON. MR. PLUMB—Hear, hear!

“I am aware that no country can have two separate and distinct tariffs; but I do think, inasmuch as the high tariff on implements and several other articles we are compelled to