

this country, this government allows American lumber to be imported into this country free of duty. Last year there was brought into this country from the United States, over \$2,000,000 of wood imports, consisting of sawn boards, staves, posts, laths, and other descriptions of sawn lumber. Here is a government which is supposed to be legislating for the Dominion, allowing the Americans to send into Canada, to compete with our manufactures, over \$2,000,000 of wood products, free of duty, and yet will not take measures to prevent the export of Canadian logs to the United States. What is the reason? It is simply this, that these gentlemen are altogether oblivious of the interests of what they consider a small part of the province of Ontario, namely, the counties that border to the Georgian Bay, and which are interested in this business. But in this connection the government will find to their sorrow, that the lumber interests of that section—as shown last year by an immense deputation—are hostile to the government on account of the unfair proposition that they have placed in the fiscal policy of this country. They will also find that the employees of the mills in this country, are strongly against the government, by reason of the fact, that although the government talk of an alien labour law, to prevent Americans working in Canadian mills, while Canadians are debarred from working in American mills—

Mr. COWAN. Where?

Mr. BENNETT. The hon. gentleman has been dining, and has forgotten.

Mr. COWAN. Not at all. The hon. gentleman is making a statement on a subject he knows nothing about, and which is entirely apart from the fact.

Mr. BENNETT. I have heard many arguments from that source, and they are always about as conclusive as the present one. These hon. gentlemen find themselves, after four years of pure humbugging, in rather a tight place. The farmers have been humbugged just as have been the prohibitionists, and these hon. gentlemen are looking in every direction to find a prop that will support them. They have seen the fall of the Greenway government; they see the wreck of the Ross government in Ontario; they see the means by which the local government in Prince Edward Island is endeavouring to hang on to power; they see their humiliation in Hamilton, when they had to take a senatorship from that town and give it to Brockville, because they were afraid to open a riding in Hamilton. Either that or we must conclude that there was not a Liberal in that city qualified for a senatorship, and I should be sorry to say that that was the case. What then is the result? Finding that they have humbugged the people in every direction, they are starting out on a new track. They are starting out on

the loyalty cry. They are shouting loyalty from the house-tops. But that cry comes ill from them, considering where they have been years before. They know that every statement which the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Tarte) is making throughout the country, must have attached to it a considerable amount of weight. They know that in the province of Ontario, which is heart in hand with Britain in this great contest, and that in the province of Quebec, many of whose people are equally patriotic and earnest in their devotion to the mother country, the statements which the Minister of Public Works is making, are condemning this government in the opinion of the people. Take the statement made by the Minister of Public Works in Paris the other day:

It is very possible that in their own minds 99 per cent of the French Canadians disapprove of the South African war, and are of opinion that the money spent by Canada in this connection might have been spent with more practical results elsewhere.

And he further says:

The French Canadians do not desire that the sending of a contingent to South Africa without the previous assent of parliament should in any case be considered a precedent.

They feel that, owing to these statements by prominent members of the administration, they are losing ground in the province of Ontario, and in every English-speaking province; and they know that by reason of their past utterances on trade questions, they are losing ground also. And so these hon. gentlemen are vying with one another now, in raising the cry of loyalty. They start out with the preference to Great Britain. I for one am willing that every possible means should be taken to strengthen, if necessary, the bonds between ourselves and the mother country; but I do not think that the people or the statesmen of Great Britain wish to see the industrial and manufacturing interests of this country injured for the purpose of bringing British goods into this country. But hon. gentlemen opposite seek to bolster themselves up by making a great cry about their preferential tariff. But how does that preference work? We know that we do not to-day, and never will, import from Great Britain agricultural implements or wagons. We do not import from Great Britain the necessities generally used by the farmers of our country. These, so far as they are imported, are drawn from the United States. And when these hon. gentlemen go about the country and tell the farmers that they are conferring upon them great benefits by allowing the importation of goods from Great Britain, the farmers and artisans are intelligent enough to know that what we are bringing in from Great Britain are not the necessities they use, but the luxuries of the rich people. Every one knows, by consulting the Trade and Navigation Returns, that our imports from Great