

were not the case, because as we progress, we certainly ought to be making improvements in our manufactures. The Nova Scotia Steel Company is therefore not alone in having had to reduce their prices. I expect that in the course of the next two years, this very Nova Scotia Steel Company will so rearrange the manufacture of their goods, that they will be able to compete, not only with England but with the United States and all other countries. They are making a good article, and as a customer of the Nova Scotia Steel Company to a very large amount, I must say that I always found them to be most honourable and straightforward men to deal with. I know very well that they will be able to meet the rearrangement of the new tariff.

The "Canadian Manufacturer," a very strong protectionist paper printed in Toronto, speaking of the new iron duties, says :

This makes a very substantial reduction in the cost of the material of many branches of the iron industry, and in the wide range of industries in which iron is a very important factor.

Take the matter of steel ingots, we know that our bar iron people were complaining that scrap iron was too high at \$4 per ton. Scrap iron in my estimation ought to have been free, but \$1 a ton will make very little difference here or there. This particular rearrangement of the tariff will enable bar iron men in Montreal to reopen their works, and proceed with their very important industry. The reduction of the duty on steel ingots from \$5 to \$2 a ton, will also enable them to commence the manufacture of steel, and we will have in Hamilton, and perhaps in Toronto, and in Montreal, factories where they can begin to manufacture steel. Only this spring, you could not buy a steel ingot in Canada for less than \$32 a ton, while steel ingots in England were \$22 a ton. It has practically prohibited the manufacture of steel anywhere else than at one place in Nova Scotia. Therefore, the Government, in making this change, are practically carrying out the promise they made to the people that under their tariff there would be no chance of monopoly; and this is very good proof of the sincerity of their professions and statements while in Opposition.

There are one or two other things that I propose to refer to while on the iron duties. I am satisfied as a manufacturer using iron very largely, that almost every article into which iron enters as a factor will be cheapened this year and in the coming years, and we shall see thousands of dollars saved to the farmers and the consuming classes throughout the country. It is quite true that sectionalism is a very bad thing. For my own part, I have been desirous of seeing all that could be manufactured in Canada made here; I have been desirous of seeing every article that could

be produced at a profit, and without laying a burden on the people of the country, made in Canada; and I am satisfied, from what little study I have already made of the present tariff, that our friends in the Government have more than fulfilled the expectations of the country. We have heard of delegations coming here. How many delegations came here three years ago when an attempt was made to alter the tariff in a few items. But we have been endeavouring on this occasion to alter the whole tariff, making it more in the interest of the consuming classes; and to-day we do not hear of any delegations coming to Ottawa; we do not hear of any complaints, comparatively speaking, throughout the country. Where are the complaints coming from? Everywhere you go you hear of reviving industries. Take up this "Manufacturer," and read how many industries are being started. Take the last issue, and you find that scores of companies are being formed all over the Dominion for the purpose of going into the manufacture of machinery, the manufacture of stoves, the manufacture of engines and boilers, tanneries, woollen and cotton mills. These are being started everywhere. Any one looking over the list in the last "Manufacturer" will be satisfied that if there are any persons afraid of the tariff of Canada, it is not the manufacturers or the people who have capital; but any fear that exists is confined practically to the House of Commons and to our friends in the Opposition. To-day there is greater hope throughout the country than ever before. The object of the Government, in reducing the duties on raw materials, was to equalize a great many industries in which there were differences between the duty on the manufactured article and the duty on the raw material. In many instances the duty on the raw materials was higher than the duty on the manufactured goods—so much so that many people found it almost impossible to manufacture. The Government have restored the equality in the duties, and this of itself will revive many industries, which in the past few years have been in a very languishing condition. Looking at the tariff as a whole, and at the general policy of the Government, it seems to me that very little exception can be taken to it. As we look at it to-day, after having gone almost through a session of Parliament, with scarcely an amendment made to the general policy of the Government, we conclude that the feeling throughout the country is favourable to all that the Government have done. The people of this country know that it would not be wise to make too drastic a change now, knowing all the industries that have grown up around the old tariff, and knowing also that many men had their all invested in the industry in which they were engaged. The Government have pursued a cautious course, and I am sure that