

has been lessened. And who are to be the beneficiaries of this change? The agricultural implement manufacturers, of whom they have a representative on that side of the House in the hon. member for Leeds and Grenville (Mr. Frost), are to have the advantage of the reduced duty on iron, while, at the same time the duty on agricultural implements is kept up in the interests of the hon. gentleman and of the Messrs. Massey & Co., who are strong admirers of hon. gentlemen opposite. The Government had the opportunity to give to the farmers a real advantage in connection with the reapers and binders, and the petty advantage of 1 cent per gallon on coal oil is nothing compared with the advantage they could have given the farmers on the larger article of agricultural implements. But they say: We have done something as much to the advantage to the farmers by reducing the duty on binder twine. All that I have to say is that the figures prove that for the past two or three years binder twine has been sold as cheap in the province of Ontario as in the United States. If it is such a boon to give the farming interests of this country binder twine without duty, why did they not give that boon this year? If it is such a boon to the farmer, why was it not permitted to go into effect at once? The fact of the matter is that hon. gentlemen have been trying to break their fall, and while they have refused to carry out the pledges that they have made to the farmers, they are endeavouring to break their fall with these paltry and trivial reductions on coal oil, binder twine and barbed wire. Now, there is in my riding an industry of great importance, an industry that has grown under the fostering care of the National Policy. In the town of Orillia, the manufacturing concern of Tudhope Bros. employ 100 men all the year round. They are making there, and have made for the last eight or ten years, carriages which have found a ready market not only in the province of Ontario, but even in the maritime provinces. Yet under the policy of the hon. gentleman, as contained in this tariff, a blow is being struck at the carriage industry of this country, which, in my humble opinion, it cannot possibly survive. There was a specific duty of \$5 on each manufactured article valued at \$20—and a large number of so-called carts are brought into this country from the United States, paying a duty of \$5 specific—so that duty of \$10 on each article is under the present tariff reduced to \$7, as against \$10. And why is this change made? It is not made as being warranted by what hon. gentlemen have done, because to the manufacture of carriages they have given little or no advantage; for while the duty on iron is reduced, the duty on malleables, which is the most expensive part of the carriage apart from the workmanship, has not been reduced one iota.

Mr. BENNETT.

This afternoon the hon. member for West York (Mr. Wallace) asked the Government, or pressed upon the Government, the necessity of placing an export duty upon logs, and in that connection I would ask the indulgence of the House while I address a few remarks to the Finance Minister and to any other members of the Government who may be present relative to that great question. To-day we are haggling in this House about matters, and hon. gentlemen opposite are importuning Cabinet Ministers to preserve and to retain customs duties upon certain articles the manufacture of which employ a few hands, while they are entirely overlooking what is to-day one of the greatest industries, or could be made the greatest industry in the whole province of Ontario, namely, the manufacture of lumber. Sir, fifteen years ago, standing in the Legislative Assembly in Toronto, appeared a large number of American buyers, who openly announced their intention to purchase Canadian limits, and having purchased them, to remove the logs to Michigan, and to use them there in the manufacture of lumber. That was the time and the occasion when the Government of Ontario, with their eyes wide open, should have at once made a restriction on the sale of these limits, so that every foot of pine on those limits should be manufactured in the country. Unfortunately for the good of the province, that was not done, and to the mortification of the people of Georgian Bay, they saw, year after year, vast quantities of saw-logs passing from the Canadian to the American side. In a few years after that, Sir John A. Macdonald, then being Premier, had his attention called to the matter, and by reason of its great importance, the Dominion Government imposed an export duty on logs which almost prevented the trade and shipment of them to the state of Michigan. Unfortunately, at that time a movement was set on foot by certain Canadian lumber manufacturers and by American limit-holders in Canada. The duty at that time was \$2 on white pine lumber passing from Canada to the United States, and in consequence of a joint proposal made by the Canadian lumber manufacturers and the American limit-holders in Canada, the authorities at Washington and the Dominion Government entered into an arrangement by which the export duty was removed from logs, and at the same time the duty was reduced on white pine lumber from \$2 to \$1. Since I have had the honour of a seat in this House, I have at all times and on all occasions pressed upon the Government the necessity of taking action in this matter, and preventing the export of these logs from this country to the United States. When I say that I am within the mark in stating that there has been for the past eight or ten years, year in and year out, exported from the Georgian Bay to Michigan 400 million feet of white pine lumber, hon.