

was only able to procure the class of labour he required from the city of Detroit; and so it would be elsewhere. I have always believed that the coal and iron of Nova Scotia would come into active operation as a large factor in the trade of the country at no distant day. There these are elements of manufacturing wealth, but there are no of such elements in the hon. gentleman's Province. When the hon. gentleman led the people to believe, as I presume he did, that New Brunswick would furnish this amount of manufactures to the west, he was merely indulging in a figure of speech, by which he, for the moment, got over a very unpleasant situation. The hon. gentleman showed a great deal of moral courage, for which I give him credit, in going to his Province at all after the disasters he had brought to that Province, in common with the rest of the Dominion. I admit that the measure of the hon. gentleman opposite of last Session has increased the wealth of certain individuals. I have always maintained, I maintain now—and I believe every political economist who thinks at all and speaks the truth must say the same thing—that no Government can create wealth, though any Government can distribute wealth justly or unjustly. The hon. gentleman has succeeded in re-distributing wealth by his legislation: he has succeeded in putting a million dollars into the hands of sugar monopolists at the expense of the whole country. He has succeeded in building up a few vast monopolies by his enormous duties which are now imposing enormous taxation on all the rest of the country. He has, in the matter of India rubber manufactures, for instance, and in some other cases, compelled the people of the country to pay largely increased prices for, I am sorry to say, a very inferior article. In some manufactures which he has stimulated, he has by the measure we so strongly deprecated last year, succeeded in forcing the people to take what was unsuitable at whatever prices the manufacturers thereof chose to impose. I maintain that any policy which, for the sake of employing a few hundred men, or a little steam power, any policy which deprives the people of the country of the privilege of buying cheaply does a great injury to the country. I am glad that a distinguished Canadian authority of the

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hon. gentleman's own party took that ground years ago. Sir Alexander Galt, in a lecture in Toronto, pointed out that it would be utterly impossible for any Government or Legislature to build up a system of manufactures in this country by the imposition of high duties. What we really want is an extended market. What the late Administration did was to encourage manufactures by developing markets in foreign countries. Under the impulse given by the exhibition we were able to make in Sydney, in the first six months after that exhibition was held a large amount of goods were sent to the South Seas. I venture to say that, under the policy of hon. gentlemen opposite which makes all these articles dearer, our people will find that that market cannot be kept, and that the so-called protection of our industries has resulted disastrously to the manufacturers themselves. Hon. gentlemen, over and over again, both in the House and out of it, have declared that the policy of the Government was retaliation upon the United States. Within the last few days the chief organ of the Government, alarmed at the menaces thrown out in United States political circles, has endeavoured to prove that that was not the case, that the discrimination was rather the other way. I need not remark upon the value of any Canadian demonstration representing 4,000,000 of people threatening a people of 48,000,000. Why, Sir, that people are strong and powerful enough, have sufficient variety of climate and other advantages, to set your idle threats at defiance. Our policy should be to cultivate peaceable relations and conditions of trade which would be just to both countries; but for a small country to threaten a big one is an act of supreme folly. That folly ministers have been guilty of. I am not at all surprised, but rather gratified, to find that the chief organ of the Government is endeavouring to show that there was no retaliation against the United States in the tariff. I trust that whatever is done with our tariff during the present Session there will be no boast by responsible Ministers—whose utterances must be taken in foreign countries as official—that there will be no utterances which would show that they were determined to destroy the most profitable trade which Canada has had in all her connections. There is one