

States against Canada. Those efforts were all in vain, however. There is not an American politician who does not feel that our imitation of their fiscal policy is the greatest compliment that we could have paid them. I had the honour lately of meeting an American gentleman holding a high official position in London. Did he tell me that the people of the United States were exasperated with us on this account? He said that we could not make the people of England understand that with Canada and the United States there is no alternative, in the public interest, but the protection of home industries. It would be beneath that great Republic to cherish a feeling of irritation towards a people, whose policy is, to a certain extent, in unison with its own—that are intelligent and independent enough to be able to strike out a policy suitable to their own interests. What effect has our policy had? It has directed the first minds of all the leading commercial circles of the United States, with a view to see if the change in the Tariff of Canada cannot be obviated by a fair readjustment or measure of reciprocity, as might be carried out to the satisfaction of both countries. That was another of the delusions with which the gentlemen opposite were either misled themselves or tried to mislead this House. There was another objection, and that was the old cry: You are going to make this a dear country to live in, you are going to depopulate the country, and drive all the people out of it, you tax the people to such an extent that they cannot live in Canada. Well, my hon. friend believed that, in providing profitable industry for hundreds of thousands of people in Canada, doing the work of Canada with Canadian hands and on Canadian soil, he would not depopulate the country. You would suppose, to hear those hon. gentlemen talk, that all our people were going away, and that nobody was coming into our country. Again, those hon. gentlemen are met by the public records, which give the most emphatic contradiction to all their impressions on this subject, for during the past year we have had over 30,000 emigrants, and of the best classes of emigrants that ever came to this country, as against less than 20,000 the year before. They were brought in at a smaller

cost, and, even under the operation of that \$20 prohibition, within the last two months, double the number of people are rushing into this country to make it their homes, than within the corresponding two months of last year. As my hon. friend the Finance Minister said to-night, Canada never occupied, since she was a country, so proud a position as she does to-day with respect to the question of emigration. The policy of my hon. friend the Minister of Agriculture was a bold and statesmanlike policy, saying to the world: We have got a country that does not require us to depend upon hired employés to show its advantages, but we have a country possessing such inherent claims to consideration that we are prepared to pay the expenses of a body of intelligent men to come from Great Britain, and traverse our country from end to end, and then go back to their own people and tell them the result. The result is that more has been achieved in the interests of Canada, more has been accomplished in opening up our magnificent country as a home for hundreds of thousands of men—not only the industrious, energetic sons of toil, but those who will bring a large amount of capital into this country to enrich it—more has been achieved in this way than ever before. When, a year ago, I ventured in this House to express the hope that in connection with emigration from Great Britain to this country there was a question worthy the consideration of Imperial statesmen, I was met by a shout of derisive laughter from hon. gentlemen opposite. The idea was derided that Imperial politicians could be induced to take the slightest notice of our absurd notions of the advantage of bringing British subjects and settling them on British territory in our North-West. But this laughter had hardly died away when we find my right hon. friend the First Minister presenting the same views to the greatest man in the British Empire, Lord Beaconsfield, who himself became an emigration agent for this country; we saw Lord Beaconsfield standing before his countrymen and saying that, although disaster had overtaken England, although unfortunately the condition of the working classes and of the industrial classes was not what was to be desired, he was able to tell them with