

vituperative course of certain parties in the Dominion in decriing the country, in running it down and injuring its credit, but I do say this that, under existing circumstances, without giving the National Policy credit for it, it would have been much more gratifying if the hon. gentlemen had taken the course taken by some of their papers three or four months ago and have admitted that the country is more prosperous than it was, but that the National Policy was not the cause of it. Every unprejudiced man must admit that the country is in a more prosperous and hopeful condition, and I think it would have been more patriotic and more in the interest of the country to have admitted that fact. Many hon. gentlemen in this House communicated with me last session before we submitted the resolutions in reference to the tariff, and will probably remember that, in the conversation that I had with them, I said that the next session of Parliament will be the session upon which this policy will be more especially put upon its trial than any other, because we had had depression before for five years. Everything had been going down for five years. You cannot immediately stop a locomotive, after running four or five miles on a down grade; though you put on the brakes, it takes some little time to bring it up; so with this matter. Many manufactories have been closed, and it could not be expected that the full effect of the policy would be felt within eight or nine months, and I urged upon our friends not to be too sanguine as to its immediate results. My expectations have been more than realized. My expectation would have been more than fulfilled even if we had not been able to present half the facts that we have presented during the consideration of the amended tariff, and, instead of having any want of faith, that faith is stronger to-day than when I submitted the proposition on the 10th of March, because there has not been an argument advanced by hon. gentlemen opposite that has not been fairly met, and not a single statement put forward by them that has not been completely demolished. There were two or three things I referred to in my speech—two especially—one with reference to the loan. The late Finance Minister said it was a pretty good loan. The loan he made in 1876 was nearly as good. He went on to depreciate it, although admitting it to be a good loan. But the hon. gentleman in his statement, and it was done intentionally, no doubt to place me, if it was possible to do so, in a false position before the people of this country, said that, when I visited England to negotiate a loan, Sir A. T. Galt was there at the same time. I may say that, when I was in England negotiating the last loan, he (Sir A. T. Galt) was on this side of the Atlantic. It was said when I was at Washington negotiating any business Sir Alexander Galt was there also. He was not there with me. But I feel it an honor to have it supposed that any business transacted by me, or any