

no less than 313,189 lbs of tobacco were raised in the county of Kent, and 457,111 lbs in the county of Essex, making a total of 770,300 lbs.; while in 1871, the production throughout the whole province of Ontario had fallen to 399,870 lbs.; only 163,152 lbs. were produced in Kent, and 190,692 lbs in Essex, showing that under the present system of taxation, the production of tobacco was almost driven out of these two counties. The opinion in the West was that those who wished to use the imported tobacco, to the exclusion of our own, should pay an increased tariff, and that, if the duty on tobacco imported from abroad were not increased, the Government should reduce the tariff on our own, which was worth so much less, or take it off altogether. He thought that if some such alteration was made in the tariff, it would encourage the growth of our own tobaccos, and he trusted the resolution would receive a very large support.

MR. TUPPER said he rose for the purpose of noticing a very remarkable statement which had been made by the hon. the Finance Minister. In his Budget speech, the hon. gentleman said that, if he had no ready means of collecting it, he would prevent a deficit by resorting to an income tax. The hon. gentleman had again made a very damaging statement, as far as the credit of the country was concerned, namely, that the passage of this resolution would endanger the loss of some \$500,000 a year of revenue, and that he knew of no means by which that could be made out, except by resorting to direct taxation. He believed that a more unfounded statement with reference to the financial condition of this country, it would be impossible to imagine. Had it come to this, that after everything the hon. gentleman told the capitalists of the world, four years ago, of the prosperity of this country, all the results of indirect taxation were exhausted, and that there were no means of repairing a loss of half a million, except by resorting to direct taxation. He thought the hon. gentleman had not considered the weight that would be attached to his words, or he would not have made a

statement so reckless. It was not only calculated to damage the credit of the country, but was a direct contradiction of what the hon. gentleman said only a year ago, when he stated, while asking for the imposition of a certain amount of taxation, that we had large resources of taxation yet left untouched, upon which we could fall back and sustain the credit of the country. The remarkable contradiction that had taken place between two members of the Government on this question had already been noticed by the hon. member for Niagara (Mr. Plumb). He had drawn attention to the fact that the Minister of Inland Revenue, who was specially charged with the revenue of the country and the particular taxation interfered with by the resolution, had stated that this resolution would be entirely inoperative, because the climate of the country was so utterly adverse to the growth of tobacco as to render it quite impossible, if it had any encouragement, that any material quantity could be grown. The hon. Minister said the resolution would be innocuous and useless, and that no one would be tempted to grow tobacco in this country. The hon. Minister of Finance regarded the climate as eminently adapted to the growth of tobacco.

MR. CARTWRIGHT: The hon. Minister of Inland Revenue spoke in French, but, if I understood him, he spoke of Lower Canada; I spoke of a part of Upper Canada, which is entirely different.

MR. TUPPER said that if the hon. gentleman undertook to make a proposition of this kind by reference to a particular locality, he could only say that he entirely failed in the discharge of his duty to this House. The Minister of Inland Revenue was not Minister for Lower Canada, or one Province of the Dominion, but for the Dominion of Canada. In this disparity of statement he was disposed to place confidence in that of the Minister of Inland Revenue, because the hon. Minister of Finance could not be supposed to have the same sources of information at his command. He thought the hon. Minister of Finance

MR. STEPHENSON.