

adian, and who went to the Committee of the American Senate and to Boston public meetings and openly declared that he was an annexationist. Now, in view of the fact that Mr. Wiman was that hon. gentleman's ally, that Mr. Farrer was in that hon. gentleman's employ, that the member for South Oxford had got control of the *Globe* newspaper, that he himself was at Washington in May and that he was making these speeches in Boston; was there not good reason for our fearing, as I may say I did fear, and as I do now fear, that that hon. gentleman is at heart, although he may not say it openly, an annexationist.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Perhaps you had better ask your present Premier about that!

Mr. WELDON. Ah! go back to history if you like, look at the career of Sir George Cartier who was once in arms against his English Queen, but who afterwards devoted his life to the service of his Queen, and ended that life as a true servant of his Queen. Sir George Cartier did not take honours from his Queen, and then seek to betray her. I wonder, Mr. Speaker, if when the roar of the Boston banquet had died away, and the hon. member for South Oxford laid his head upon his pillow and thought of the early days when his Queen, for good services which he had rendered to her, had decorated him with knighthood; I wonder if then there came across his fancy the image of that good Queen, and if there ever came a feeling of baseness, that after having taken the oath of allegiance to the Queen, as all members of Parliament have taken it, and after wearing then, as I am informed he does not wear now, the decoration of knighthood, I wonder if he did not, looking into the future, say: I know that this unrestricted reciprocity is humbug; I know that it is nothing but commercial union; and I know that when Canada puts her feet upon that inclined plane she will irrevocably plunge down to political union with the United States. The hon. gentleman knew that perfectly. Long ago we read the words which Tennyson puts in the mouth of the old English King, when he met first his beautiful Guinivere after her flight:

“Liest thou here so low,
Whom once I knew in happier summers.”

And so every good Canadian must feel about that gallant knight who twelve years ago, was undoubtedly a patriotic Canadian. I have his words here, delivered at that time, and there is a good honest loyal English ring about them. I read them in the *Hansard*. I remember them now, and I will read them again to show how he has fallen in these twelve years. The hon. gentleman was speaking of the National Policy as being in itself a damage to English trade and he said, when they were delivered:

“We know that for a long time there have been a number of people in England, who have felt that it was rather hard to be called upon to maintain the police of the seas in our interest and to perform many other things popularly supposed to belong to a central government, and yet to find at the same time their manufacturers excluded by their own colonies, at the very instant when they are doing the utmost possible to promote trade with the colonies. And I can tell the hon. gentleman, that he may rely that when the people of England come to understand the exact operation of the tariff, he will find that he has gone a great step towards inducing them to look with complacency on any proposition which will relieve them from the burden of its defence. There is no use pursuing the ostrich-like policy of shutting our eyes to the manifest political dangers which are apparent to the course we are called upon to take. I do not condemn, to the same extent, his policy as regards the Americans and I admit

they have always shown themselves very selfish in all matters of trade policy, but I warn him that he is exposing great important interests in thus rashly throwing down the gauntlet to 40,000,000 of our best customers.”

Now, Mr. Speaker, let me contrast with that some unfortunate remarks made by that hon. gentleman within the last few weeks or months. I will read but two short sentences from a speech made by the same gallant knight in this House. Here is the tone in which he then spoke of England—this is taken from our own *Hansard*—referring to our trade policy:

“If it does discriminate against Great Britain, we have a right to. Our own interest is paramount. We owe Great Britain nothing but charity for her atrocious blundering against our interests. There never was a time that Canada could not have bettered her condition by joining the United States.”

Here is another extract taken from a speech delivered by the hon. gentleman at Oshawa, on the 4th of February last:

“If free trade with the American nation will be good for us, let us vote for it, though it should involve discrimination against Great Britain twice over. Providence has planted us on the American continent, not surely to be the mere henchmen of that distant crown, but to do the best we can for Canada in the way that to us seems best, no matter what the ultimate consequences may be.”

Mr. Speaker, it is on the record, and within the memory of the oldest members of this House, that when the hon. member for South Oxford sat on this side of the House, the *Globe* used to speak slightly of his performances, as it has spoken slightly of many other able men. At that time he had waited three or four years, in the hope of taking a place on the Treasury benches; and when, on the withdrawal from our politics of Sir John Rose, the portfolio of finance became vacant, because his claims were not considered, and because Sir John Macdonald gave the place to Sir Francis Hincks, then this gentleman deserted his party and his leader. Therefore, if after two or three years of impatient waiting for a portfolio, the hon. gentleman in disappointment deserted his leader, it is no very great wonder that, after twelve years of feebleness and baffled ambition, he should betray his country. I tell the hon. gentleman that he and those associated with him have made a stupendous mistake when they have looked to the skies south of the boundary line for the sign by which to conquer. We want no such sign, but we will go on standing by our institutions, looking not to Washington, but rather to London, in the hope that the Dominion will grow, if not rapidly then slowly, to be a strong, earnest, loyal people, until by-and-bye Canada shall become, as most of us—on both sides of the House, I frankly say—hope she will be, a puissant nation, one of the proudest of England's children, standing side by side with the nations of the southern hemisphere and other sister nations, bound in a league of perpetual amity and good-will with the old land. I am sorry, Sir, to have spoken at such great length, and I thank the House for its indulgence.

Mr. PATERSON (Brant). Mr. Speaker, the remarks of the hon. gentleman who has just taken his seat will lead me on a somewhat different course from what I had anticipated taking in this debate; but I feel that it is due to him, as it would be courteous on my part, that I should endeavour to give such an answer as I am able to the various points he has touched upon. He has introduced subjects which I had not thought of alluding to to-