

but was made to take back water by the Manufacturers' Association.

Mr. LANDERKIN. He took back none ?

Mr. DAVIN. I say practically none. I will ask the House to bear with me because I am called on to prove a negative. The only way to prove a negative is by induction. And, although it may be wearisome to the House, and certainly is not pleasant to myself, I will go over the items, and I will stamp that lie once and for all, for what it is. Sir, immediately on the Finance Minister bringing down his financial statement last year, and before a single manufacturer's deputation had time to come, contrary to my rule in these financial discussions, I spoke early in the debate, and I said what has been brought against me again and again. Speaking of the tariff said :

It is one of the boldest things that have been done in the history of tariffs—and I recall what was done by Mr. Gladstone ; it is a bold, sage and a liberal measure, and it will have my undivided support.

That is quoted against me in the west, and they say : " Though he characterized the tariff in that way, what did he do when the manufacturers changed the tariff in such a way that its own father would not know it ? " He was as silent as the grave. I explained my position ; I put the tariff under their noses, as if the hon. member for Winnipeg (Mr. Martin) was here now. I would do as regards him. I gave them the two tariffs, but they did not dare to accept the challenge, and I said I would show that the statement that any modifications of importance were made was utterly false. Now, Sir, in the course of the speech I wanted to show what had been done to take off taxation, and I wanted to justify the opinions I had formed of the tariff, and I may say I was quite surprised at the length the Finance Minister went. And if I was criticising it from the standpoint taken by hon. members of the Opposition, instead of taking the position that they have taken, I would have taken the position that he had gone too far. Here is what I said in my speech last year just after the tariff was brought down : Lumber, free. That was considered a great boon ; we used to pay 20 per cent. Barbed wire, 1½ to ¾ cents. Now, Mr. Speaker, I will note the changes from specific to ad valorem in those articles mentioned in my speech. I will note the changes lowering from a specific to a lower specific duty, and any case where there was a restoration or a partial restoration. I will then, at the end give the number of the changes that were made from specific to ad valorem, the number of the changes that were made from high specific to lower specific, and the number of cases where there was full or partial legislation. Tarred paper, from ½ cent per pound to 25 per cent. There was specific duty abandoned, No. 1.

Mr. DAVIN.

Mr. LANDERKIN. What number was that on the tariff ?

Mr. DAVIN. I will give you the tariff list.

Mr. LANDERKIN. I have the tariff of last year. What was that last item ?

Mr. DAVIN. Tarred paper, from ½ cent per pound to 25 per cent.

Mr. LANDERKIN. In the final passage of the Bill is it 25 per cent ?

Mr. DAVIN. I think so. What do you make it there ?

Mr. LANDERKIN. Tarred paper, 25 per cent. When the Bill was introduced it was 20 per cent. It was increased.

Mr. SPEAKER. Order, order.

Mr. DAVIN. You are quite right. The difference, however, from ½ cent per pound to 25 per cent would be equivalent to a change of about 5 per cent. But, in any case, the point I make is that specific duty was abandoned for ad valorem. I hope my hon. friend will look at it carefully, because I may err in one or two points, and I would be glad to have him correct me.

Mr. LANDERKIN. What item is that ?

Mr. DAVIN. The item I have just read.

Mr. LANDERKIN. That was not a specific duty at all.

Mr. DAVIN. Yes ; it was changed from ½ cent per pound to 25 per cent.

Mr. LANDERKIN. You mean it was changed from 20 per cent to 25 per cent.

Mr. DAVIN. No ; it was changed from ½ a cent per pound to 25 per cent.

Mr. LANDERKIN. No.

Mr. DAVIN. I say it was.

Mr. LANDERKIN. I say it was not.

Mr. DAVIN. Axle grease, from 1 cent per pound to 25 per cent. There is another case of specific duty abandoned. Whips, from 50 cents per dozen and 30 per cent to 35 per cent—another case of specific duty abandoned. Axes, chopping axes, from \$2 per dozen and 20 per cent to 35 per cent. Scythes, hay knives, from \$2 per dozen and 20 per cent to 35 per cent ; portable machines, threshers, and separators, from 35 to 30 per cent. Buckthorn fencing, from 1½ cents per pound to 1 cent per pound. Hubs, spokes, felloes, hewn and sawn, from 15 per cent to 10 per cent. This was the original change. I think they are free now. Pails, tubs, churns, from 25 to 20 per cent. Farm and freight wagons, from \$10 each specific and 20 per cent ad valorem, to 25 per cent.

Mr. LANDERKIN. Might I ask the hon. gentleman, if he will allow me, is he reading from the old tariff ?