

ductions would about supply the wants of the whole; one-third should be employed in manufacturing, and they would manufacture enough for the whole, and the remaining third would be represented by professional and all other unemployed classes. If the people were divided in their pursuits in this wise, they would be mutually working for each other and into each other's hands. The farmers, by home consumption, if their market was protected, would always be sure of remunerative prices for their products, as the supply would not be above the demand. The manufacturer, likewise, would still be sure of a steady market at home for his productions, and the balance of the population would also share in the benefits that must accrue from this established equilibrium between supply and demand. Two-thirds of the people were at farming, and, as a natural consequence, there was a large surplus of their productions, for which the want of a suitable market was felt in every part of Ontario. In his (Mr. Sproule's) section, two or three years ago, oats, largely raised there, were worth from 35c. to 48c. a bushel; the farmers considered that from 35c. to 50c. paid them. But, while their own oats were selling at 48c., an unexpectedly large consignment arrived from Chicago, bringing down the price to 25c. a bushel; every farmer there thus lost the difference between 48c. and 25c. The same argument would apply to wheat, of which Canada did not raise much more than she wanted. In 1876, they exported a little over 8,000,000 bushels, and had to import 5,000,000, which gave them only 3,500,000 more than they consumed. Yet these 5,000,000 took the place of the same quantity of Canadian wheat, and for which they had to find a market outside. Again, they exported 479,000 barrels of flour, and imported 314,000, which showed that they only produced a little more than they needed for the wants of this country. They shipped 7,000,000 bushels of barley, and brought in but 302,000. Almost the whole of their exports of barley went to the United States, and, while the Americans sent here 302,000 bushels, without paying anything into the Canadian Treasury, for the advantage of our market, we had to pay a very large consideration for the Ameri-

can market. As to the question of who paid the duty, he would say, it was regulated as follows: There were circumstances under which the consumer paid the duty, and there were circumstances under which the producer paid the duty. As an illustration, he would state that, some years ago, in their part of the country, Toronto was the only commercial centre. They had not then the advantage of the railroads, and upon the highways there was, every few miles, a toll-gate; every farmer who sent his produce to market had to pay the toll upon his load before he could reach the market; Oswego was the market for the barley of the Canadian farmer, but, before he could reach that market, he had to pay a duty of 15c. a bushel, which might be regarded as an imposition similar to the toll required formerly of farmers sending their produce to Toronto. The producer, in this instance, had to pay 15c. per bushel duty, and he did not realise any more than the man who raised his barley in the immediate vicinity of the market, and who paid no toll. An illustration had recently been given in a newspaper, in which a farmer owned land upon both sides of the line. That farmer raised barley, and, while he received 85c. per bushel for the barley he raised on the American side, he only made 70c. for that which he raised on the Canadian side, the other 15c. being required to pay the toll. This was a case in which the producer paid the duty. But, in regard to articles which they could not manufacture in this country, which they had to purchase abroad, and upon which they had to pay duty, the consumer had to pay the duty. He did not think they had to go far from home for ample proof of this, that a protective policy would assist a young country. They need only look to the United States. He remembered that, when a resident of that country, in 1865 and 1866, at the close of the American war, he paid \$85 for an overcoat, \$30 for a pair of pants, and \$15 for a pair of boots. Under a high protective tariff, these goods, which, in 1866, could be made in Canada for one quarter the money that they cost in the United States, were now being sold for a lower price than they could be sold in this country. He maintained that the tariff