

the true National Policy; let us follow that policy on all occasions and in all its legitimate directions; let us follow that policy which has been endorsed, not only by the Conservative party, but by thousands and thousands of Reformers, who have ceased to believe in a Reform party that had nothing to reform—and let us not forget that the glorious motto inscribed on the banner which we carried triumphantly at the last elections was that of Canada for the Canadians.

MR. GILLMOR: Members on this side of the House propose to fight the question out upon this line: We are not influenced by expediency, but are influenced by nothing but principle. We are opposed to the whole principle of Protection. I do not propose, in the few remarks I may make to-night, to refer to the speeches of any hon. members who have preceded me, other than to say, with reference to the hon. gentleman (Mr. Tassé), who has now closed his remarks, that he has manifested considerable sharpness, and which reminded me of a circumstance occurring down in our country. A young man, ambitious in theology, went off to attend a theological training school, and when he came back he was called upon to officiate. An old man, who had listened to him, was asked what he thought of the progress the young man had made. "Well," he said, "my young friend, you can whet a case-knife, but you cannot make a razor out of it." Now, my young friend over there, who has endeavoured to demolish the hon. member for West Durham and the hon. leader of the Opposition, is very sharp when he has been whetted up, but the material with which to make a razor is not in him. I did not intend, Mr. Speaker, to speak on this question, as I do not see that any very great good can come out of this discussion. The few remarks I shall make will be those which have suggested themselves to me in listening to this discussion since it commenced. I am an attentive listener, and I would not speak on this question except that I think my constituents expect me to enter my protest against the fiscal policy adopted by the present Government, on all suitable occasions. In speaking at this time it will be my duty to go back a little, and I promise not to go back more than fifty years. Some of the hon. gentlemen who have spoken

went back more than a century. I will take occasion to go back in this discussion to the time of Confederation. I will read the remarks made by the hon. Finance Minister last year, when introducing this Tariff. He said:

"The time has arrived when it will become our duty to decide whether the thousands of men throughout the length and breadth of the country, who are unemployed, shall seek employment in another country or shall find it in this Dominion."

He goes on:

"Whether we will confine ourselves to the Fisheries and certain small industries, and cease to be what we have been, and not rise to be what I believe we are destined to be under wise and judicious legislation."

The hon. the Finance Minister in the opening remarks of his Budget Speech, did not appear to be much elated with the success of the National Policy so far. He wanted a little more time, and said, that if he had it, the results would be more satisfactory. Like the barren fig tree, he wanted another year, when he would dig about it, and dung it, and then it would bring forth fruit. Mr. Speaker, I have been a long time acquainted with my hon. friend the Finance Minister, and in any remarks I may make to-night, I want it understood that I do not love Cæsar less, but love Rome more. I discover that he still retains his old characteristics. I will say, at the outset, that I never knew my hon. friend to make a prediction that was fulfilled, and I never knew him to admit that he had been mistaken in any prediction. Give him time and all his predictions will come true; and this reminds me of another story: Some young men in Portland, in the State of Maine, were amusing themselves on the bank of a river, trying if they could throw stones across it. A strapping fellow from the country happened along, picked up a brick, and threw it further than they threw the stones. They said to him: "You are a powerful man." "Yes," said he, "pretty strong. I think I can throw one of you across, and I will bet \$10 on it." They planked down the money, and he took hold of one fellow, who came forward, by the breeches and the scruff of the neck, and pitched him some ten or fifteen feet. He swam back and said "I want the money." "No," he said, "I can do it," and threw the man in again. He again swam back, and de-