

have done. I have shown to-night that although a great many of the manufacturers have received no benefit from the National Policy, yet the profits of the manufacturers in Canada in 1891 amounted to 33 per cent on the amount of capital invested. I venture to say that if you ask the farmers of the country, most of them will tell you that they have not made three per cent. Last fall I happened to be in the eastern part of my constituency, where I saw three good farmers who know how to farm very well; and these men being good Conservatives, of course did not want to belittle their country, but they told me that they would not have 10 bushels of wheat to the acre, and most of their land was in spring wheat, which in that locality is the staple crop. When I tell you that spring wheat is quoted in Toronto at 62 cents a bushel, you can easily understand that farming is a very unprofitable business at the present time. Now, Sir, I was astonished to hear the hon. member for South Ontario (Mr. Smith) say that prices were higher here than in New York or London. When I heard that statement I went to the reading-room and consulted the "Empire" in which I found winter wheat quoted at 77½ cents in Buffalo, against 67 cents in Toronto, oats at from 38 to 39 cents in Buffalo, against from 34 to 35 cents in Toronto, barley, No. 1 at 45 cents, No. 2 at 40 cents, and No. 3 at 33 cents in Toronto, against from 75 cents to 83 cents in Buffalo. I was also astonished to see in that paper that in Albany No. 1 barley was from 92 to 93 cents per bushel, and No. 2 from 84 to 85 cents. I think the hon. gentleman had not consulted the party organ, or else he would not have made that statement. I have noticed that there has been more freedom of expression in this debate than is customary in this House, and I think it is a very good thing. We had the spectacle of an hon. member on the other side of the House making a complaint that the party organ had been trying to gag him, and to deprive him of free speech. Every effort is being made to keep the party in line; but when we see that there is a great division on the tariff, and that Conservatives are as earnest as Reformers in favour of tariff reduction, we may well believe that there is a grand future before this country. We believe that the McKinley Bill will be abolished, and that we shall have a reduction in the tariff. While some are in favour of reducing the tariff on goods coming from Great Britain, some of those who pretend to be ultra loyalists say: No, we do not want to do that for Great Britain unless Great Britain gives us preferential trade. They are not willing to trust their friends any further than they can see them; they want the bargain made before hand. But if we could receive cotton and iron goods at a great reduction from Great Britain, it would be highly beneficial to the people of this country. Now, without trespassing any further on the patience of the House, I have much pleasure in supporting the amendment of the

hon. member for South Oxford, to the effect that the present tariff bears heavily on the great consuming classes of the Dominion, and should at once be thoroughly reformed in the direction of freer trade, and that the amount of taxes collected should be limited to the sums required to meet the necessities of government efficiently and economically administered.

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Speaker, were it not for the very deep interest which the question now being debated by the House has for the people that I have the honour of representing, I would not thus early from my place in the House presume to occupy any of the time of the hon. members. But, Sir, I shall endeavour, in a few words, to show you what importance the question has for the people of the province from which I come, and why they take such a deep interest in it. In 1880, 1881 and 1882 the acreage under cultivation in that country was not sufficient to supply the wants of the settlers, not to speak of those engaged in the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Every pound of flour, beef, potatoes, and everything else required by the men engaged on that road had to be imported from the United States. Contrast that state of things with the immense crop produced last year by the province of Manitoba alone, which is only about one-fourth of that great country. The Manitoba Government returns show that there were 14,500,000 bushels of wheat, 11,500,000 bushels of oats, 2,000,000 bushels of barley, 2,250,000 bushels of potatoes, 6,750,000 bushels of turnips, and about 200,000 tons of hay. From these facts you will readily understand the number of agricultural implements, and the quantity of binding twine, barbed wire, nails and everything else required to supply the demand in a new country like that. For that reason this question has a special importance for the people of Manitoba. So far as I am personally concerned, and I think I speak the sentiments of those whom I represent, I may say that I am not satisfied exactly with the reductions that have been made. I had expected and hoped for more; but in consultation with the hon. the Minister of Finance, he assured me that it is the intention of the Government at a very early date, during the recess, to go thoroughly into this question, thoroughly to revise the tariff as regards what will be suitable for that province, and also for the whole Dominion of Canada. In Manitoba you will find that almost every farm has from \$1,500 to \$2,000 worth of agricultural implements. Much of this machinery is old and useless; still we had to purchase it. In 1880 and 1881 we were paying \$275 for binders which you could not give away to-day. What has the National Policy done in that respect? In 1892 we have a binder better worth \$500 than the binders for which we paid \$275 were worth \$100, and we get them for \$140. Our opponents