

from the following expenditures by the Mackenzie Government :

Steel rails.....	\$2,000,000
Fort Francis Locks.....	250,000
Fort Pelly works.....	64,000
Georgian Bay Br., Central Ry..	109,000
Neebing Hotel and land.....	69,000
	\$2,492,000

I shall be very glad to know from gentlemen opposite how much good Canada reaped from those expenditures while their own friends were in power. The hon. member from Antigonish (Mr. McIsaac) went into various calculations last night to endeavour to show to this House and to the country, and more particularly his constituents, that the sum of \$7,000,000 had been stolen within the last seventeen years. Even suppose that were true, yet if we consider this two and a half millions wasted by the Mackenzie Government, and for which the country received no value, then we can make a fair comparison between the periods the Conservative and the Liberal Governments were in power. In his calculation he attempted to show that this \$7,000,000 would build a net work of railways all over the province. Does he forget that when his own friends were in power they expended \$11,000,000 on the Canadian Pacific Railway and built exactly 189 miles, or at the rate of 37 miles a year? If that \$7,000,000 had been used in building roads as expensively as they were built under the Liberal party rule, he would be a long time getting home over them. Now, I have listened carefully to the hon. gentlemen on the other side who have addressed the House, to see if there was any article or any line of articles from which they propose to take the duty in order to place it on other articles; but I listened in vain to ascertain from any of them what they propose to do. It is all very well to talk about taxes; we must have a revenue; but I was very glad to find that every one of those who spoke intimated that they were not in favour of free trade. But they tell us that we are not extending our trade. The hon. member for Wentworth (Mr. Bain) found fault with us on that ground, and ridiculed every attempt that is being made to extend our trade with other countries; he told us that we should extend our trade to the south. Well, if there was any question about that, or if there had been any lack of effort on the part of any Canadian Government, either Liberal or Conservative, in that direction, I should forgive him for saying what he did. But does he not know that even before we had responsible government in the Dominion, representations were made to the home government to induce the United States to give us reciprocity of trade? Does he not know that as early as 1847, after responsible government was granted to Canada, similar attempts were made, and that almost every

Mr. McDONALD (Victoria).

year since successive governments have striven to obtain reciprocity with the United States, and that we only succeeded once? That was in 1854. Afterwards, the United States, not Canada, put an end to the treaty. Do they not know that in 1875-76 the Hon. George Brown—and I do not think I am speaking disparagingly of any Liberal in Canada when I said that he was probably the ablest man that ever belonged to that party—went to Washington in the effort to secure a reciprocity treaty; and if you read the correspondence, you will wonder whether, in all the offers he made, there was anything left that he did not offer. He first offered reciprocity in natural products, and then in manufactured goods, and at last he was willing to throw in all the claims under the fishery award, amounting to \$5,500,000, if the United States Government would give him a fair treaty of reciprocity. All these offers were refused. We know that in 1866-67, every attempt was made on behalf of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and the united provinces of Quebec and Ontario to revive the treaty on even less favourable terms than those of 1854. The hon. member for North Norfolk (Mr. Charlton) told us in this House a very short time ago that the Canadas were willing to accept very much less than we gave them in the treaty of 1854; and still Canada has as yet been unable to negotiate a reciprocity treaty with them. Now, the National Policy was inaugurated in 1878, not by the Conservative party alone, but with the aid of the ablest men in the ranks of the Liberal party as well. We all know that it was a matter of complaint on the part of Mr. Blake, who led the Liberal party for a number of years, that his friends deserted him in 1878 for a false principle. I find, in reading the debates, that the hon. member for South Brant (Mr. Paterson) and the hon. member for North Norfolk (Mr. Charlton) were not the only men who were in favour of a protective policy in 1876. On the 3rd of April, 1876, Mr. Desjardins, who is now a member of the Senate, moved for copies of papers and documents relating to the sugar refineries. He said that after the Budget speech had been delivered in 1876, it was a well known fact that the most important sugar refinery in the Dominion had closed its doors, leaving useless an invested capital of \$1,000,000, and throwing 300 men out of employment. The product of the refinery amounted to \$2,620,000; and the value of the importations was \$2,400,000; that the salaries then paid in the establishment amounted to \$71,000; that \$120,000 was paid annually for cooperage, and \$14,000 for iron works and general repairing, and that when the establishment was in operation, 14,000 tons of coal, carried by our ships from the Pictou mines, were annually consumed. In view of these facts, he said, it would be idle to contend that in this case a private interest merely was concerned. He then went on to