

that had been heard, inside and outside of this House, was that Protection had not yet produced any result, that the country was just as poor to-day as on the 17th of September. This impatience seemed rather extraordinary, and those who made a profession of it were evidently not serious. For, after all, the tariff was not yet adopted. It was true that it had been in force for a few days, but it was hardly known all over the country. A year, or a year and a half would be required before the new system would be put to an ordinary trial. This impatience reminded him of the proverb which said that the fruit could not come before the flower. Complaints had been heard with regard to the sacrifices imposed by the new tariff upon the poor man. These complaints might be answered by saying that, if the people were taxed to-day, it was, in the first place, in order to cover up the deficits of the late Liberal Administration, and to continue the public improvements that had been undertaken. It had been said that the Conservative party were afraid to meet the electors since the tariff had been brought down. He was not of that opinion. In his county, the question had been placed squarely before the electors, and every time mention was made of the National Policy, his opponent took good care to draw the attention of the electors to the fact that Protection signified an increase of taxation. A familiar, and rather striking, illustration he made use of was to tell the electors that the hats they wore would be taxed to the extent of 15 or 18 sous, and that it would be the same with regard to all articles of general consumption. Then, the news that the people would have more taxes to pay than before would not surprise them. Moreover, he had answered this argument, as it should be answered now, by stating that the electors should not buy their hats from foreigners, but that they should buy them at home, and that it was better to pay a little dearer for them and keep the money in the country. He had to thank the hon. the Minister of Finance for having kindly paid attention to the remarks that he had made to him, with regard to protection of paper manufacturers. He had been pleased to grant his request in

the name of the industries of the county that he (Mr. Vallée) represented. He trusted that the protection granted to the paper industries would infuse new life into the four large paper mills now at work in his county, and that others would be opened. There was also in his county a furniture manufacture that would be greatly helped by the new tariff. Mention had been made of deputations that had come to interview the hon. the Finance Minister since he had brought down his tariff. He had been present at some of these interviews, and he had heard the delegates approve of the tariff as a whole. It was true that some wanted a little more Protection, and that others, strangely enough, wanted less. He had thought that these few persons were actuated rather by selfish motives than by a desire to forward the general interests of the country. Some had gone so far as to say that the new tariff would create too much competition in the country; that a great number of capitalists would come and establish the same kind of manufactures as those they possessed. Naturally, public sentiment, the general interest, ought to predominate over private interests. It might be said in a general way that the new tariff would develop industry, favour agriculture, and cause the country to enter upon a new era that would lead to prosperity. The policy of the Government on this question ought to be approved of as a whole. He trusted that before long the country would feel the beneficial results that were hoped for, and the dark days and the hard times that the country had just gone through would give place to prosperity. He would conclude by applying to the arguments of the Liberal party an incident, of which he had been an eye-witness. Once an unfortunate man was blown up while blasting. He fell to the ground, bruised, his skin torn and his flesh mangled. A skilful doctor was called in. This had taken place in a small village, and all the gossips of the place gathered round to view the sad sight. When they saw the doctor cutting away a part of the skin and flesh, he heard them utter some very severe remarks against the man of science. They thought it hard to make the poor man suffer by cutting away his flesh and pieces of his skin. But, after a fortnight,