

I shall be able to satisfy the supporters of the Government as to the economical administration of the affairs of this country during the five years, as well as the success that has attended the policy called the National Policy, adopted in 1879. I say I hope to have the assent of the supporters of the Government to the facts and statements that I propose to submit; and as we also have before Parliament the returns from 1874 until 1879 containing the results of the administration of our predecessors, I hope that by the contrast we will be able to make, we will also have the assent of hon. gentlemen opposite to the declarations that I am about to make in favor of this policy.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Your faith is great.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. My faith is great—yes, Mr. Speaker, and I am glad to know that it is greater than that of the hon. gentleman opposite, and I trust that before we close this discussion—because I have no doubt that, as in Sessions past, it will take a wide range, and that a good deal of time will be occupied in it—we will have reason to feel that I am nearer right than my hon. friend opposite, who takes a more gloomy view than we do on this side of the House with reference to the circumstances to which I refer. It has been the custom, during the last three Sessions of Parliament, and it has been the custom of hon. members opposite out of Parliament, to endeavor to show that the Government of the day has been extravagant because we have added largely to the expenditure of the country, and they claim that it must necessarily, therefore, add to the taxation of the country in proportion to the increased expenditure. Now, Sir, one of the objects that I have in view in addressing the House on the present occasion is to show that while we have increased the expenditure largely, we have not increased the taxation of the country beyond the increase of the population. It is a very