

they say that when they go on the street to hail a carter they may find him with a suit from exactly the same piece, and, therefore, they prefer to pay the extra price for the foreign article. The effect of the Tariff in relation to the article of woollens has been this, that it has imposed the tax upon the shoulders of the people, who are the best able to bear it. There is no man in Canada to-day that cannot clothe himself from head to foot without paying one cent of duty or of tax, who cannot, on the contrary, get those articles just as good and at just as cheap a rate, having regard to the price of the raw material, as they are to be had either in England or in any other country where the articles are manufactured. But if he wants imported goods he has to pay at least a portion of the duty for them, and nobody will blame the policy which places that tax upon him. The effect of the other policy would be to drive these woollen factories out of the country, and that is the only way in which this matter can be argued. Drive them out of the country altogether, import the articles from abroad, and you put upon the poor man as well as upon the rich, the obligation of paying the full duty with the merchant's profit added. Now, I take another article, and perhaps hon. gentlemen will say it is my hobby, but I cannot help it. I take the tea trade as an illustration of the effects of this policy. In consequence of the differential duty put on by my hon. friend the Minister of Finance, and accepted by this Parliament in 1879, a very important result has followed to the trade of the country. What do I find? That the import of tea—and perhaps no better illustration can be given of the generally improved condition of this country than is to be found in the increased consumption of tea in Canada—we find that the importations in 1881 amounted to 16,647,015 lbs.; in 1878, they were 11,019,231 lbs.; so that the people of Canada have been able to use half as much more tea in 1881 in consequence of the generally improved condition of the country, the greater purchasing power and comfort of the people, than they were in 1878. Now, how has this trade been effected? I find the importations from Great Britain have increased 27 per cent.; that is a foreign trade. I find the importations from the United States, which is not a foreign trade in the ordinary acceptance of the term, decreased 11 per cent. I find that the importations from China increased 358 per cent., from Japan 265 per cent. The importations from other countries were not large, so I give the figures because the percentage might appear to indicate a disposition to mislead the House. The figures are 6,385 lbs. for 1878, to 59,657 lbs. in 1881, or an increase of 900 per cent., so that from every country except the United States there has been an enormous increase in the importations, while from the United States the importations have decreased 11 per cent. notwithstanding that the aggregate increase from all countries has been somewhere about 50 per cent. We have had importations direct from the Dutch East Indies to Quebec, of 47,475 lbs. Now, Sir, I know hon. gentlemen opposite will say these were not direct importations. They will ask where was the ship that brought these teas into Montreal or Quebec?

Mr. ANGLIN. The Flying Dutchman.

Mr. WHITE. The hon. gentleman can sneer at a question of trade affecting the interests and well-being of this country; he has no better argument to offer. But, Sir, these are questions which affect the well-being of the people of this country, and they will recognize and realize the conduct of hon. gentlemen who, in this discussion, have nothing but sneers to offer. They ask, where is the ship? What is the fact with regard to it? What was the condition with regard to this trade at the time hon. gentlemen opposite were in office in 1878? New York was coming to be the great centre or distributing point in relation to the

tea trade for the whole Dominion, and as merchants went there for tea, they went there for other articles as well. What was the general tendency and course of our trade? Every year there was an increased importation of goods from the United States, and a decreased importation from the Mother Country, and from other countries as well, largely in consequence of just such a policy as was involved in this question of a differential duty upon imports of tea from the United States. But as a result of these direct importations, whether they come from China and Japan to Montreal, or to Toronto or Hamilton merchants, over the American railways, or whether they come directly up the St. Lawrence, as a large quantity of tea did come—but however they came, they came as direct importations, as the result of business relations between the Canadian merchant and the producer in the foreign country, or the commission merchant or broker in the foreign country, thus leading to those relations of trade between the two countries which, in the future, I am quite satisfied will produce important results for the commercial prosperity of this country. The policy of the Government has restored the distributing tea business to the merchants of Canada instead of to the merchants of the United States. Now, I will take another article which may be considered a hobby of mine, and that is the business of sugar refining. I am not going to refer to sugar refining as it has been already dealt with so ably on the floor of this House. But I desire to refer for one moment to a sneering reference made by an hon. gentleman to Mr. Peter Redpath, who, it is said, has recently purchased Chisselhurst in Great Britain. The hon. gentleman who first made a sneering reference to that gentleman was the hon. member for West Durham, who, although himself a Chancellor of a University largely endowed with the public funds, and therefore not dependent upon the contributions of the benevolent and patriotic people of the country, ventured, at a public meeting in the city of Toronto, during an election, when he hoped to excite the popular mind against the sugar refining business, to taunt Mr. Peter Redpath with having contributed \$50,000 to a museum in connection with McGill College, Montreal. I am glad to know that it was not \$50,000, but \$125,000 that Mr. Redpath contributed for that object. I do not think it comes well from a gentleman who occupies, in relation to the higher education of this country, the position which the hon. gentleman from West Durham occupies, I do not think it comes well from him to make every man in Canada who is engaged in the industries of the country feel, if he contributed to the support of these great institutions, he would render himself liable in consequence of it to be traduced, villified and sneered at by public men. I say it was not what was to be expected from a gentleman occupying his position. The hon. member for North Norfolk (Mr. Charlton) does not appear to be aware that the Redpaths were an old family in Montreal long before sugar refineries were heard of in Canada. They made money in the ordinary course of trade; they were not only a family of wealth, but a family of respectability, and they realized what, unfortunately few rich men realize, the responsibilities which belong to great wealth, and they were always ready to contribute of the means they had accumulated to the promotion of objects of usefulness in the city in which they lived. If the Redpaths have made money by sugar refining they have made it by a close attention to business, by watchfulness to even the one-hundredth part of one per cent, in connection with their transactions. In fact I may say that they have made their money more as merchants than as refiners. They were taunted with making money in the old times, and the Molson family—a family of great business capacity—started a sugar refinery alongside of them. But it went down. It had not the skill which was brought to bear for the success