

sured them were safe by the combinations he had so eloquently pourtrayed. He (Mr. Burpee) regretted, as a Confederate, the dissatisfaction that must take place by the action of the Government when inaugurating this most outrageous tariff, in the face of the assertions to the contrary made by the Finance Minister. He believed the people of Canada were as loyal as any under British rule, not excepting England itself, and he regretted the present tariff would be found to loosen the bonds between the Dominion and the Mother Country. The fact that some of the Provinces, as he had shown, had been dealt with in a manner exceptionally hard, must create dissatisfaction and discontent, and would, he feared, create a desire for political union with their nearest neighbours, as the only means of getting a market for their products shut out by the tariff, and for which they had no other market. He exceedingly regretted that the effect of these considerations, and the fact that the tariff of Canada and that of the United States were likely to approach so near each other, together with the high duties the Government proposed placing upon British manufactures, would be to loosen the bond with the parent State. This he should deeply deplore, and for this the present Government would be responsible, if it should be, as he feared it would be, promoted by the present tariff.

MR. ROGERS.

April 8th, 1879.

MR. ROGERS said the proposed tariff indicated a policy so completely at variance with his own views of sound political economy, so utterly inconsistent with the progressive tendencies of the world, and so prejudicial to all the vital interests of Canada, that it was not surprising that all who were not trammelled by election pledges or party alliances, should offer an earnest protest against the infliction. Although the injustice of the measure would apply to the whole Dominion, no Province would

feel it more keenly than New Brunswick, and no county in the Province more than Albert, which he had the honour of representing. He need not, therefore, apologise for expressing his dissent from the opinions of the Finance Minister, whatever might be his personal regard for that gentleman. He felt that he would ill discharge his duty if he did not rise, and, at least, in a few words, express his firm protest against an imposition of taxation so fatal to every interest of his constituents. Those interests were very diversified. They included five different classes — farming, lumbering, mining, shipping, and, to some extent, fishing. These interests were variously intermixed, and all were more or less dependent on each other. The division of labour had not reached such a state of perfection there as in the older Provinces. While the farmers of his county were dependent on the soil for their subsistence in the raising of a variety of products, their surplus consisted mostly of cattle and dairy products, hay, oats and potatoes. There was no import of these articles to speak of, and even a prohibition of foreign farm products would not help their prices. Much of their products were sold in Boston, New York, and other American cities, thus giving employment to coasting vessels, which could only carry such cargoes at low rates with a prospect of return freights of cornmeal, flour, coal and other merchandise, and any restriction on this trade would at once injure the farming interest by the increased cost of importation, while the advance on all the necessities of life which the farmer must buy would add greatly to their present depressed condition. Flour and meal, so far as required, would be higher at certain seasons, when the advantage of an overstocked New York market, combined with a nominal rate of freight, could be secured. They imported a large quantity of cornmeal, the duty on which must add to their taxation. By comparing the imports into New Brunswick, of last year, which were 65,919 bbls., it would be found the duty would be \$26,367, while the duty on the corn imported would be \$1,673, making in all \$28,040. Sugar also, and even tea, would be found to cost the Dominion more when importers were restricted in their choice of