

colonized; and the eleventh was—what do you think!—protection to home industries [laughter and cheers]. My hon. and learned friend shakes his head. To borrow a joke that was made by Daniel O'Connell, you will remember, Mr. Speaker, well versed as you are, in all sorts of parliamentary and forensic lore—that when arguing before a jury, and the presiding judge shook his head in dissent from the law as expounded by the learned counsel he said, "Gentlemen, His Lordship shakes his head; but when His Lordship shakes his head, there's nothing in it" [laughter.] My hon. friend entered the House of Commons in 1876 and in 1877 became minister of Inland Revenue in Mr. Mackenzie's government; but did we ever hear a word of these reforms from the Mackenzie Government while my hon. friend was a member of it? I need hardly tell you that they did not touch the question of the election of Senators; they did not reduce the number of cabinet ministers nor the Governor General's salary, nor the number of public employees, but added \$300,000 a year to the public burdens under that head; they did not recognize the militia; they had no policy with regard to the St. Lawrence or any other route; and they began to build the Pacific Railway before there were three farmers in the North-West. During that time my hon. friend never spoke one word in regard to those things that his eloquent pen was dilating upon in 1872.

MR. LAURIER. If the hon gentleman will pardon me: my paper was dead in 1872.

MR. DAVIN. I may be incorrect in saying that he advocated them in 1872 in his paper; but he did advocate them in his paper and in 1872 in his speeches. I may say this, that it shows a failure of medical and surgical skill on my part from a literary standpoint not to know that it was dead, and it is a wonder that it lived even as long as it did [laughter, cheers and renewed cheers.] What happened, actually? Going aside a little, and yielding, so to speak, to the spirit of this debate up to the present moment, I ask: What was done for the country during those four years? and what could

we expect to be done if they had remained longer in power? I was reading the other day the speech made by the hon. member for South Oxford in 1878, when he was Minister of Finance. It is not necessary for me to inflict a long quotation from it on the House; I do not, as a rule, you know, quote much. But I will say this, that all you have to do is to take up the speech made by the hon. member, when he was Finance Minister in 1878. That speech was one note of despair in regard to doing anything for the North-West or for the Dominion. When Mr. Tilley, afterwards Sir Leonard Tilley, brought in his Budget speech, what did the hon. member for South Oxford (Sir Richard Cartwright) say then? What he did say then shows the value of his criticism on the present budget. He told the manufacturers that they would have competition a hundred times worse, under the tariff of Sir Leonard Tilley, than they had under the tariff it was to supersede. Not only that, he said they would have the most vehement domestic competition, and he described the ruinous financial evil consequent on the protective tariff of Sir Leonard Tilley. If you go westward, he said, you have a very long stretch of country which for many years, cannot be bridged over by railway, and we are dependent for the means of keeping up communication with the North-West, at best for several years, on the privilege of passing through a foreign country. He had no anticipation then of seeing the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway, which, three years later, was completed by the Government of Sir John Macdonald [cheers.] Such a thing as the feasibility of that enterprise never entered his head; and if the hon. gentleman had continued in office we should have no Pacific Railway to-day and the North-West would still be an unknown region, and unknown quantity, so far as the Dominion is concerned. Therefore, when he denounces this tariff, when he says it gives the maximum of disturbance and the minimum of relief—when he prophesies all sorts of evil results from the tariff—all we have to do is to remember his doubts at the period to which I