

perfectly right to adopt this policy. We had heard so much about loyalty, so much that this legislation would be received unfavourably in England, that one would almost be led to suppose that the only bond between this country and England was the bond of pounds, shillings, and pence; that the only bond between the two countries was one that existed between our consumers and the manufacturing interest of England. He did not say that the English manufacturing interest was not a great one, and that it should not be considered by Colonial legislation, but he did not at all agree with his hon. friend from Lambton, in the statement he made the other night, that we were retrograding, while the other Colonies were going on hand-in-hand in accord with the English system which was inaugurated by Cobden, Bright, Mill, and gentlemen of that school. There was already a Protective tariff to a certain extent, in certain particulars, in almost every one of the Colonies of Great Britain. In the Australian Colonies, in regard to their farming interests, there was a Protective tariff. That policy had been adopted deliberately, it had been much discussed, and there had been changes of Government in those Colonies upon that very policy. He was disposed to think that there were strong reasons for the adoption of a Protective policy, ultimately, in England. He could see marked evidences that her present policy would be changed. He could not see how the iron interests in England, for instance, could otherwise sustain themselves. He ventured to say that the English ironmasters, and their workmen, who were out of employment, would not look with favour upon the fact that Belgium could send to England iron girders and other heavy kinds of work in competition with her own iron manufactures of the same class. Even locomotives of Belgian manufacture had undersold those of England for her own railways. He ventured to say that the discontented population in England would, by-and-bye, ask the reason why, and call for protection from that kind of competition, and from the philosophers who had made it possible. He believed that common sense would prevail against the theories of Mill, Cobden, Bright, Bastiat or any other

man whose nostrums had been forced upon us *ad nauseam* during the late five years. A grain of common sense was worth more than a pound of theory. He saw indications everywhere that it was coming to be considered to be the first duty of every country to take care of itself. He saw indications everywhere that it would, ere long, be recognised as an axiom that the business of a country belonged to the people who paid the taxes, who sustained the Government, who employed the labor, and who formed the basis of the wealth of the country. He could only say this: that, if we did not desire to be handed over, bound hand and foot, to the people on the other side of the line, we must acknowledge that Canada belonged to the Canadians, however much that statement might be denied by hon. gentlemen on the other side of the House. Why, where was the loyalty, where was the super-loyalty of that Grand Old Reformer who absolutely controlled that party in Ontario, when, in 1874, he constituted himself an ambassador to the United States to procure a renewal of the Reciprocity Treaty? What would have been the result of the proposition he made to the United States in 1874? He (Mr. Plumb) had made a calculation upon the bases of the revenue in 1874 as to what we would have lost if that treaty had gone into operation. Mr. Brown proposed to receive largely the manufactures of the United States, and every manufacturer in Canada rose up with the remonstrance that that treaty, if it went into operation, would absolutely crush out our infant manufactures, and leave us nothing in the world, except agriculture, upon which to sustain ourselves. Under that treaty, all our skilled labour would have gone to the United States; and, not only that, but finding, in the first place, that the United States would not accept an exchange of natural products, he enlarged the bases of his negotiations. He added Schedules B and C. Schedule B consisted of all kinds of agricultural implements; Schedule C, of manufactures of cotton, cabinet ware, boots and shoes, machinery, leather manufactures, iron of all kinds, and other items. These were to come in duty free. Taking into consideration duties previously collected on