

portion of Nova Scotia, as I have said, our natural market is the United States, for the reason that the Upper Provinces do not want, and cannot take, what we have to export. Our vessels running across to the United States with lumber and cordwood naturally want to bring back wheat, flour and breadstuffs of different kinds as cargo. The duty on breadstuffs is a very great tax upon them, and they are obliged to pay it or purchase flour that comes down by rail from the Upper Provinces at a great disadvantage. These are all disadvantages under which our people labor, and it is not to be wondered at that they should prefer a different policy to that which is carried out at the present time by the Government. I do not pretend to say it would be possible for this Government or any other Government to arrange a tariff that would bear evenly upon all the Provinces of the Dominion. I acknowledge it would be very difficult and almost impossible to do so; but I do not hesitate to say that if the Government had made up their mind to so readjust the tariff as to make it bear as heavily as possible on the Maritime Provinces, they could not have done it more effectually, or framed a tariff which would be more injurious to our people than the present protective, or what is called National Policy. It is, I am sorry to say, a policy which will, to a certain extent, have to be carried out in the future, in consequence of the heavy liabilities imposed on the Dominion, and the large amount of revenue which will have to be raised. We all know that, and I hope the time is not far distant when, if there is not a change of Government, this Government will, at all events, get the scales removed from their eyes, and see as we see on this side; when they will so arrange or adjust their tariff policy that in the future the people of the Maritime Provinces will only be taxed what is fair and reasonable. Mr. Speaker, I desire to thank the House for the patient hearing they have given me. I have spoken under great difficulties, for I am physically weak to-day, and I thank the House for the consideration they have shown me.

Mr. ALLISON. It was not my intention to make any remarks on the question before the House, but as the hon. member for Digby (Mr. Vail), in speaking this afternoon, referred to some industries in the county from which I come, I asked the privilege of reading from a newspaper which is published in that county by a gentleman belonging to the Reform party, who was a representative of that county in the last Parliament of the Local Legislature, but who has for the present retired from politics and entered the field of journalism. The hon. member very properly declined to allow himself to be interrupted when he was speaking, and I now wish to read a short extract from that paper, referring to the industries in the town of Windsor. I may say that the hon. member for Digby confined his remarks principally to the cotton factory established in that town, and if I am not mistaken, was incorrect in his statement that that factory was closed, even for any length of time. If it was closed at all, I am confident it was but for a few days, for the purpose of stock-taking, or repairs, or something of that kind. He has spoken of the distressed condition of that institution. I express my opinion that his leader, the hon. member for West Durham (Mr. Blake), had as much to do with the erection of that factory as any person in the county I represent. He spoke in the constituency in 1881, when the matter was under consideration, and succeeded in convincing the people that so much money was to be made by the manufacture of cotton that a good many of his own friends, with their usual keen eye to business and their enterprise in such matters, put their money in with others, and the factory was established. The predictions of the hon. leader of the Opposition have been as usual, unfulfilled; as the shareholders who were to be "bloated monopolists" have not yet received large divi-

Mr. VAIL.

dends; and cotton has been unusually low in price to the consumer, who was the object of his sympathy. The president was my opponent at the election, and his platform, as laid down on nomination day, was that he "was a follower of Edward Blake." With regard to the other industries, I should like to read this article. It is headed "False Statements," and appears in the Windsor *Courier* of 3rd February, 1885:

"The *Free Press*, published at Ottawa, under date of January 20, contains the following:—

"Closed factories: Having met with heavy losses during the past two years, the large furniture factory at Windsor, N. S., has been closed. For the same reason the Windsor iron foundry has shut down, and hundreds of unemployed mechanics are now crying for bread. Oh, Sir Leonard, thou false prophet, why did we allow ourselves to be deceived by the predictions from thy oily tongue in 1882."

That is from the *Free Press*, Ottawa, to which the *Courier*, published by a Reformer, replies:

"We are in a position to give the above a flat denial."

Then, after the next sentence or two, referring to the fact that both the furniture factory and the iron foundry had closed for a brief period, as is their custom, for the purpose of taking stock and making repairs, the *Courier* continues:

"It is a libel on Windsor to say that hundreds of unemployed mechanics are now crying for bread. If there is a town in Nova Scotia, in Canada—yes, in all America—where less poverty exists than in Windsor, we should like to know where it is situated. Beggars are never seen on our streets, and we doubt if there is a family in our town which is not making a comfortable living. If there is such a family it is on account of sickness or from some other reason than want of employment."

The article, after a reference to the mechanics of Windsor, proceeds:

"We know many of them who have quite large sums to their credit in the savings and other banks. Such untruth and trash may go quietly broadcast over Canada in the columns of what is called a respectable journal, and receive no contradiction. But in the interests of our town, and in the interests of truth, we will nail it as a falsehood when it comes to our knowledge. We wish every community in Canada was as comfortable as that of Windsor is at the present time."

The hon. member for Digby (Mr. Vail) this afternoon did me the kindness to say that he would pay some heed to any remarks or explanations I would make, and for that remark I sincerely thank him. I think he will not pay less heed to Mr. T. B. Smith, with whom he is well acquainted, a member of his own party, who voted against me at the last election, and who is the editor and proprietor of this paper. The hon. gentleman refers to the fact that three tanneries in the county of Digby have been closed since the National Policy came into operation. I may say that the only steam tannery we have ever had in our county has been established under the National Policy, and is in a prosperous condition. The hon. gentleman, speaking from a sectional point of view—as I am always sorry to hear any one speak in this House—continually referred to the depression which existed in Nova Scotia, and to the unfair treatment which that Province has received at the hands of this Dominion. I merely wish to reply to this remark by reminding him of the fact that his leader, who I am sorry is not in his place, invariably makes the statement, when he refers to this subject, and considers himself prepared to prove it, that Nova Scotia has received too much from the Dominion, and that it is Ontario, his native Province, that has to pay the piper. I would also remind him that his memory is slightly at fault with regard to the number of manufacturing industries in the Province of Nova Scotia. He made the statement that there were only two sugar refineries in Nova Scotia. He must have forgotten that the molasses refinery of his intimate friend, Mr. Jones, has been enlarged and increased into a sugar refinery.

Mr. VAIL. I said there were three sugar refineries.

Mr. ALLISON. He also referred to the fact that the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, in conjunction with Mr. Howe, acting as the confidential friend and financial adviser