

out that new sentence we might have a sufficient declaration for the country and the capitalists outside to satisfy them that this policy was a permanent and successful one. The hon. member for Brant said the hon. member for King's might appeal to me, and declared he spoke as if he were making an appeal to the Government to do something more for the iron industry, and that when the memorial signed by forty members was presented last year to the Government asking for a readjustment of the Tariff with respect to iron, I said the Government would consider it. The Government have considered it, and I do not hesitate to say that if he err'd in any particular it was on the side of a low rate of duty. That is my judgment after three years' experience. It was a difficult matter to deal with, inasmuch as iron was the raw material for so many industries; and with respect to the duty on steel we have simply extended the time during which it will be admitted duty free until the close of the next Session, because we have already declared that so soon as it is manufactured in the Dominion the duty will be restored. Iron and sugar were two of the most difficult questions the Government had to deal with in order to provide that no particular industry should suffer, and at the same time give encouragement to those particular industries. The statement has been made by the hon. member for Brant (Mr. Paterson) that the duty imposed was largely imposed by the consumer—that the manufacturer paid a part and the consumer another part. I frankly admit that to a certain extent manufacturers are additionally taxed upon some of those articles, but I assert that as far as the consumers are concerned they have paid only a slight increase in the cost. But what compensation have we given to the manufacturers, admitting that they pay $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. duty on iron? With respect to agricultural implement makers, the cost of malleable iron is about the same as it is being made in Canada. What compensation have we given to the agricultural implement makers?

Mr. PATERSON. Nothing.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. We have given them not only the market of Old Canada, but the market of New Canada. Were it not for the 25 per cent. duty the North-West would be flooded with American agricultural implements. As I said two years ago, on the evidence of a leading manufacturer, who had sold the year previous 1,800 reapers and mowers, and would sell that year 2,500, and was preparing to sell 4,000 the following year. Take the sewing machine manufacturer, for whom hon. gentlemen opposite have shown so much sympathy, and who had to pay something for castings. Those manufacturers, however, sold to-day four times as many machines as in 1878, and are in a much more prosperous condition. They are selling at a lower price owing to the fact that they have a larger market. As one of the manufacturers told me: they did not require to expend as much, in order to sell their goods, as they formerly did—because they sold four times as much as before—and could therefore sell them at a less price. The hon. gentleman says the fact of our allowing a drawback is an evidence that an additional duty is paid. Accept the hon. gentleman's proposition, and we give it back to them on their own industries, and therefore they are in as good a position as they were, while they are selling four times as many goods as they did in 1878.

Mr. PATERSON. One of them failed the other day.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. Some men will fail in the management of any business. The position which one of the sugar refineries is in at Halifax to-day is entirely on account of bad management. Sometimes perhaps they may fail on account of the sharp competition, and, at all events, their failure would go to prove that they are not enjoying

the undue advantages which the hon. gentleman says they are enjoying.

Mr. MILLS. Does the hon. gentleman mean to say that the foreign manufacturers had three-fourths of the Canadian market?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. I did not say so.

Mr. MILLS. How are they selling four times as much as before?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. The reduction in the price enables them to sell more, and so do the improved times which have been brought by the National Policy. Talk of strikes. Had we any strikes in 1878, except strikes for aid and assistance—striking the Minister of Public Works to give them bread and keep them from starvation. If it was a question to-day with the people between strikes and starvation, they would say: let us have the strikes. Let us have things in such a state that we may be able to employ a large number of people; let us have the better times. If it were not for the prosperous condition of the country; if the manufacturers were not able to make something out of their goods, they would resist the strikes rather than yield to them, and the inference is, that there is more wages for the men, and that the people desire the better times rather than the poverty for all as in 1878.

Sir ALBERT J. SMITH. Hear, hear.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. The hon. member for Westmoreland says hear, hear; but I say that in no part of the Dominion is the National Policy more appreciated than in his constituency—nowhere have they shown more zeal or more enterprise. He will find growing up in that county a manufacturing industry which promises to progress as well as any other in the Dominion, owing to the industry, enterprise, and the capital of the men who have engaged in it; and if it should be a question with me whether the men of Westmoreland or the men of the United States should make money, I would say the men of Westmoreland. There is a great sympathy exhibited for the mechanic because it is showed the duty on his tools has increased $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. This is a terrible business, seeing that his whole kit is worth about \$100. Now, with reference to a large proportion of his tools, such as broad axes and narrow axes, I know they are not dearer to-day than they were in 1878. All the steel that goes into them is free. They have a larger market because they have a home market, and, as I said, you may go to Dundas, or any other place, and you will find that they are making them and selling them as cheaply as before. The sympathies of the poor mechanics are to be traded upon here by hon. gentlemen opposite, rather than support a policy which would give more work and better facilities to the workingman. Supposing it is correct that he pays $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the value of his kit of tools, compared with the result of his year's labor, that is a mere bagatelle. The hon. gentleman says nails are high. I am prepared to prove, from one of the largest manufacturers in Canada, who went through his books, that the average prices are 5 per cent. less than they were in 1878. With reference to nuts, every man in the business knows that they are less than in 1878, owing to the large competition in that branch of manufacture. Then, in reference to carriages and waggons, I showed, by a reference to the prices, which no one has attempted to controvert, that they are cheaper to-day than in 1878 by about 10 per cent. The foundrymen say that they have added about 15 per cent. to their prices this last year, and that that just about covers what the increased wages amount to. Malleable iron is furnished as cheaply to-day as before, or at least that was the case when I saw the deputation who came to Ottawa on that subject. With regard to spikes they