

with this tariff, but to propound some counter proposition for relieving the distress of the country. But the late Government had expended millions of dollars upon public works which went directly to the relief of the workingman, and had, by judicious economy, kept down the ordinary expenditure, so that, notwithstanding the great increase of interest, and the large expenditure in the North-West, and the post-office improvements, the total expenditure exceeded the Estimates submitted by the present Finance Minister in 1873 only by two or three hundred thousand dollars. It would have been necessary to propose the imposition of heavier taxes, but he could not see that the people of the country would be assisted or relieved in any way by the imposition of additional taxation. The present Government proposed to tax the people. The late Minister of Finance thought it better to run a little into debt, and allow one or two small deficits to grow, than to impose additional taxation at a time when the people were least able to bear it, when the people were already suffering from depression of business and want of employment, and he (Mr. Anglin) thought the policy pursued by that gentleman (Mr. Cartwright), was the correct and proper policy. With regard to the cause of the depression, he did not think it had been shown, as was alleged, that the late Government was in the slightest degree responsible for the decline in the revenue. The distress that existed in this country never equalled the distress existing to day in England and other countries. Of the 4,000 or 5,000 bricklayers, carpenters, labourers, and others, who came to St. John after the great fire, he believed nearly two-thirds came from the United States—because that was a better place than their own country for workmen, and because wages were better. If they wanted any additional proof of the actual state of things in the United States, the hon. member for Niagara had furnished it in that statement of a gentleman from Albany, which he had read to the House, to the effect that railroads had gone into bankruptcy whose capital amounted to no less than seven hundred million dollars. It was absurd to suppose that no manufactures would

have sprung up in the United States if there had been no Protection. We, in this country, manufactured, in proportion to our population, more than the people of the United States. Was it to be supposed that a people of 45,000,000 living in a country like that, with such variety of climate, unlimited water power, with the raw material lying at their doors, would not have become manufacturers without Protection? They had succeeded, not because of Protection, but because of the intelligence and ingenuity of the people, and their marvellous ability in inventing machinery, and the superiority of their shelf hardware, and various little knick-knacks. It had been well said by an hon. gentleman that, of all the classes in this country, none had suffered less, by reason of the business depression, than the manufacturers. Of those who had become bankrupt in this country, no class had furnished so few as the manufacturing class. Go to any of our towns and cities, visit any of their suburbs, and look at the palatial residences, and three out of four of those residences would be found to belong to manufacturers. All honour and all credit to them for their success, but their success should satisfy them that they, at all events, were not entitled to receive larger profits from their business, at the expense of the working masses of this country. France had always been held up as a country which was greatly prosperous, because it had a high Protectionist tariff. France had been more prosperous commercially since the Cobden treaty than ever before, and from that day down to this she had had special treaties with her manufacturing neighbours, and had received a large amount of the manufactures of Great Britain, Belgium and Holland, and Germany, at very low rates of duties, as low as 10 per cent. in many cases. These were the countries from which she had to fear competition. She had not much to protect. She had iron and coal on the German frontier, and some coarse cotton, but, as regarded the finer classes of manufactures, the finer furniture, silk goods, ribbons, glass, china, and articles *de Paris*, besides her extraordinary products of brandy and wines, it would be found that, no matter what her tariff was, her exports were large, because her pro-