

in this respect was good for Canada, was to give the infant the treatment that was fit for the giant. The correct principle he thought was, that whenever we could protect our home manufactures, while raising revenue, we should do so. He agreed that whatever tariff policy we had should be uniform for the whole Dominion, and he hoped in future it would have the important element of stability.

**Mr. Young** did not think this was a fitting occasion for entering upon the discussion of abstract principles of political economy. He thought under the circumstances in which they now found themselves, they should facilitate the passing of these customs and excise measures as rapidly through the House as possible. There were undoubtedly in the proposed tariff some objectionable features, at least from his point of view. The differential duties on tea were not fair to the Western part of the Dominion, because the people of the Maritime Provinces preferred using black tea, and that was no reason why they should pay only 3½ cents per pound of a specific duty; while in the West the people paid 7 cents on green. A good deal had been said about incidental protection. There were some articles put on the free list last year, machinery for example, which were as much deserving of protection as any interests that are now protected. This was not the time, however, for a full discussion of the tariff as the propositions brought down at the present time by Government were only provisional, to last for a few months till Parliament again assembled, when Government promised the tariff likely to be permanent.

**Mr. Oliver** said that when the members from the Maritime Provinces complained that the tariff, as regarded them, was increased, they should remember that a great deal of the expenditure of public money for many years to come would be in those Provinces. We were to incur a debt of twenty millions of dollars for the Intercolonial Railway and most of that would be expended in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, causing greatly increased consumption and filling those Provinces with settlers. The member for Cumberland (Dr. Tupper) had stated that the people of Nova Scotia had entered upon public undertakings which would have compelled them, had Confederation not taken place, to increase their tariff to 15 per cent. Every statement that honourable member had made had been controverted by Nova Scotia members, except that, and he presumed therefore they could not contradict it. If there was any

[Mr. Harrison (Toronto West)]

prospect of a decreased expenditure he would certainly advocate a reduction of duties, for he looked on free trade as the correct principle; but at present he saw no such prospect. He disapproved of the tax on flour and the differential duty on tea in favour of the Lower Provinces. He hoped these points would be re-considered.

**Hon. Mr. Tilley**, remarking that there was no subject so difficult to deal with as the imposition of duties, from the variety of interests to be considered, the burden upon which they had to endeavour to equalize, said that, in introducing the resolutions last night, he had not spoken at much length, as the Government did not regard this tariff as final, but intended by and by to bring down another based upon a larger experience, which they might reasonably hope to last for four or five years. The Government had neither desire nor necessity for imposing additional taxation. The late Minister of Finance had put clearly before the House the position of the Maritime Provinces, which if not included in the Union would have to bear at this moment duties higher than the tariff would impose. He would address himself particularly to their representatives, as he himself represented a New Brunswick constituency, and it was from the New Brunswick minority and the Nova Scotian majority that expressions of dissatisfaction had principally come. He was sure that they would believe that the Cabinet had but one desire—that all the laws of the country should be just and equitable, and should bear equally upon all sections of the Dominion. By what he was about to say tonight, he desired to prevent the necessity of any member returning home with his head hanging down, and to give such a statement as might satisfy them all that the proposals were not invidious—however much they might perhaps disagree in trifling matters of detail, all of which the Government would well consider in recess, and if possible amend. None of them need be ashamed of the results of Confederation, by which at least no taxation had been imposed, (although it might perhaps be impolitic to say it,) upon New Brunswick, which she would not herself, if unincorporated in the Union, have been compelled to impose more heavily. Considering some of the speeches which had been made there, it was of the utmost importance that the House should understand that no additional customs revenue was being raised, the aggregate under Confederation being only equal to the same aggregate before. To refer particularly to New Brunswick, the duty on