

real producers of wealth,—not the parties who were brokers between the producers and consumers.

MR. KILVERT said he accepted the explanation, and would read an extract from a high authority on those subjects, to show that industrial classes produced wealth more rapidly than the agricultural class. Walker, on the Science of Wealth, said :

"It is, without question, true, that in an equal manufacturing population will be found a greater accumulation of wealth. One important reason of this is, that a larger share of the population are engaged in production, and a larger amount of capital is required. Women and children, who could earn but little in agricultural labours, can earn much in manufacturing. This is one of the most striking results of a division of labour, as we have already shown. As we carry on agriculture, women and children do little, though in continental Europe they do much. Agriculture, too, can be performed only in certain portions of the year. Manufacturing need never stop, summer or winter, cold or hot, fair or foul. This makes a wonderful difference."

Now, he maintained that the Government should favour the policy that would give employment to the industrial classes, and thought that this tariff would have that effect. Besides, this tariff was a most perfect vindication and fulfilment of the pledges made by the leader and members of the Conservative party, to the country, at the last elections. He held in his hand a letter from a gentleman largely engaged in manufacturing, and who was a constituent and supporter of the hon. member for North Wentworth (Mr. Bain), in which he said :

"I may add that in the matter of the tariff or National Policy, or whatever name it goes by, the Government has relieved itself from the odium of obtaining power under false pretences, and I think that every leal-hearted Canadian should assist the Government as much as possible in carrying out fairly and squarely these great fiscal changes. I deprecate the abominable tactics of setting farmer against manufacturer, and Province against Province, it is a revival in another form of the sectarian feuds that kept Upper and Lower Canada in a fever for many years. As far as I am concerned, therefore, though opposing you at the last election, I now give you and your friends credit of good faith, and I will assist in every way I can to give the National Policy a fair trial."

There were some features to which he would like to refer in reference to this tariff, and one was the drawback system.

MR. MACKENZIE.

They had, in Hamilton factories, been manufacturing goods for nearly every market in the world. Some of their sewing machine factories sent goods to Japan, Turkey, South America, and to different places in Europe. This tariff would enable them to compete with our neighbours on the other side of the line, in foreign markets still more successfully than at present. Another feature which should commend itself to this House was the new regulation to secure correct valuations. He thought this should have been adopted long ago. If it had been rigidly enforced, this system of slaughtering would have been materially lessened. If it had been enforced during the last year, he believed the Customs Department would have been in receipt of \$2,000,000 or \$3,000,000 more than they had received. He thought that, on the whole, the country was well satisfied with this policy. He believed that Canada, under this new order of things, would rise in the near future to a state of prosperity unprecedented in her history, and, instead of disunion resulting from this policy, as predicted by the Opposition, he believed it would strengthen the ties binding Canada to the Mother Country, and that Canada would continue to be, as she was to-day, the foremost colony of the Empire.

MR. BÉCHARD said that, when the hon. the Finance Minister laid his tariff resolutions before the House, he concluded his speech by appealing to the House to say whether or not he and his colleagues on the Treasury benches had redeemed their pledges to the country. He (Mr. Béchard) thought this might fairly be granted, so far, at least, as they had promised the people that, if returned to power, they would gratify the country with a Protective tariff. It seemed to him that the question they had now to consider was whether this tariff would operate as an efficient remedy to remove depression, and restore prosperity to all classes of our people. Let him say, at once, that he had no faith in the action of tariffs as distributing agents of wealth, and he considered any legislation attempting to regulate the conditions under which wealth should be acquired as an undue interference with the operation of the laws of nature, as well as with the