

this country are a loyal people. It is sometimes alleged by the Conservatives that disloyalty pervades the ranks of the Liberal party of this country, but I am happy to say that there is very little disloyalty in the country, and that we are always proud to give that allegiance to the mother country to which she is entitled. But, while we are willing to do that, we must remember that we have a country of our own deserving of our allegiance, and our patriotic efforts for her advancement, and while we love and revere the land of our fathers, we love and revere the land of our children still more. It is the sentiment of the Liberals of this country, and I have no doubt it is the sentiment of a large proportion of the Conservatives as well, that in our consideration Canada should be first, Canada should be last, Canada should be all the way between, and it is from that standpoint I have always endeavoured to discuss Canadian questions, irrespective of the interests of any other country. I desire to make some reference to our external trade. The Speech from the Throne tells us that this trade is increasing year after year. Now, Mr. Speaker, that should not surprise anybody who knows Canada, for it could not reasonably be expected that five millions of people, possessing the intelligence, the skill, the energy, the push of the Canadian people will halt in their upward progress. The cause of surprise should not be that we are as prosperous as we are, but rather that our prosperity is not still greater. In looking over the external trade of this country, one cannot but observe that the Government has failed to gain for us a number of markets which it promised to gain years ago. You will remember, Mr. Speaker, that when you were on the floor of this House and taking part in its discussions, the Government you supported promised to open larger markets to our people in which our industries would realize higher profits than before. This was particularly the case about three years ago, when the McKinley Bill had been passed, and Canadian products were prohibited from entering what I believe to be the natural market for many of those products. South America was pointed out as a market for important lines of Canadian products. Sir John Macdonald, years ago, said that the Liberal party when in power neglected to extend the trade of Canada among these countries that required so much of our produce, and grew so much that we required for consumption in this country. But, Sir, if we look at the results of the efforts made by the Government we find that they have signally failed in extending our trade with the countries of South America; indeed, the trade of Canada in these countries was greater a few years ago than it is now. The members of the Government and their supporters generally put importations and exportations together when they speak of the external trade of this country. Now, it is

well known that the measure of our success is found in our exports rather than in our imports, for what we sell is the true indication of our prosperity. This is seen in all departments of life. The labourer counts his prosperity by what he receives, not by what he pays for his living; the business man judges his progress in business by what he is able to earn, not by what he pays for the support of his family. So it is with the trade of the country, the true measure of our success and advancement is found in our exportations to foreign countries. Now, I desire to draw the attention of the Government and the country to the extent of our exportations to countries which the Government, when they established the National Policy, promised us should afford large markets for our products. Take South America, for instance. In 1889 we sent to the countries of South America products of Canada to the value of \$1,889,000, and in 1890 we sent \$1,511,000, a much less quantity than in the year before. In 1891 we sent \$1,063,000, and in 1892 \$1,027,000. Last year there was a slight increase to \$1,327,000. These figures prove that these countries, which the leaders of the Government said would afford a large and lucrative market for our exportations, have actually reduced their purchases from us within the last five years under the paternal care of that trade by the party now in power. If we look to Germany, a country with which we should carry on a large export trade, we find the same condition of affairs. In 1892 we exported to Germany goods to the value of \$943,000, but last year this export trade had fallen off to \$751,000, a reduction of about \$200,000 in one year. Now take another country. You will remember, Mr. Speaker, that efforts have been made by the Government now in power to establish trade with France; several plenipotentiaries have been sent to France within the last few years for the purpose of negotiating a treaty with that country. And you will acknowledge, and the country will acknowledge, that there is no other country on the continent of Europe with which we should have a larger trade than with France, for, as I have said before, a large proportion of our population is of French origin, their habits, customs and feelings are largely the same as those of the people of France, and it would therefore naturally be expected that between two such peoples trade would grow rapidly. But, instead of that, our export trade with France is falling off year by year, and we are losing our grip upon the trade of that country. Let me give a few figures to corroborate the statement I have made. As far back as 1873 we sent to France products of this country to the value of \$632,000. In 1883, ten years afterwards, this trade was only \$617,000, and, notwithstanding all the efforts of the Government, and notwithstanding their claims for the success of their policy, that trade last year fell off to \$264,000, or only a little more than one-third of what it