

moorings, and gave a preference to the mother country upon the principle of giving a little in order to gain a little, and the principle has worked well. I am free to say that I was one of those whose ignorance and inexperience did not enable them to see just what the effect of that movement was going to be. There were many others in the country like me, but I think I may claim credit to myself, that I have risen superior to many of those who thought with me, because now I do realize what some of them do not yet admit, how advantageously that policy has operated in our behalf. I submit that if any impartial man will take up the Trade and Navigation Reports of Canada and see how the trade of this country with the mother land has increased in the last two or three years, he cannot fail to come to the conclusion that the preference to the mother land has been a direct moving power in the increase of our export trade. I know it is said that the increase is largely in food products, and that there is no increase to any great extent in the ordinary manufacturing output of the country. But, we must not forget that the latter trade is as yet only in its infancy; and if we can compete with the United States in food products in the mother land, there is no reason why we cannot, with equal success, compete with them in other products, because we can meet them both in price and quality.

I know also that not very long ago it was held by some of the leading men of this country that the ideal position for Canada to occupy was that of a sort of vast emporium for the supply of raw material to the world. There were men who considered that that position would be infinitely more beneficial to us than any other. But that is an exploded idea to-day. All modern efforts, all modern energy, point in the opposite direction.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Hear, hear.

Mr. GUTHRIE. I am glad to see hon. members opposite have at last come to agree with this side of the House. The opinion is now generally held that it is better for this country to export flour than wheat, lumber than logs, manufactured paper than pulp.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Hear, hear.

Mr. GUTHRIE. And with the advantages which the present administration has given for the sale and distribution of these articles in the mother land, our position of vantage will be more fully maintained in this country in the future than ever it was or could have been in the past. I trust that very soon it will be demonstrated in Canada that it is more profitable to export dressed beef than live animals. I believe that I may claim the honour of representing a portion of the great stock centre in the Dominion, the county of Wellington. The stock industry is not a local industry in any sense of the

term. There is no industry in the country, I believe, which is more general in its effects than stock-raising. I think the time has come when parliament might fairly be asked to take some action to put that trade upon a basis of a dead-meat trade rather than upon a basis of a live-animal trade, which it is as now pursued. It has been demonstrated conclusively in the United States that there is more money in the dressed-meat trade, notwithstanding the trifling difference in price between the two qualities in the British market. Under the system of slaughtering these animals here there are compensating advantages which more than make up for the little loss in price on the other side of the water. Canadians will get the employment and the wage; and besides, all those portions of the animal which, up to this time, have been looked upon in this country as merely refuse and offal, material of no value, when treated by modern processes, can be transformed into profitable commercial commodities. Besides, there is a vast saving in freight, whether you estimate it by cubic space or by actual weight. To demonstrate the point clearly, let me take the case of the hide. The hide now goes to the old country on the live animal. It is stripped by British labour. Many of these hides come back to our tanneries and are manufactured into leather; and of these, a great proportion go back to the British market. They make three distinct trips across the Atlantic ocean, whereas one trip would suffice if the animals were slaughtered here. It is gratifying to know that the government of the province of Ontario is taking steps in this direction. And, as the matter is so general in its application, I think parliament might well be asked to do something to establish that trade in this country on a substantial basis.

Now, I have occupied fully the time I intended to occupy. But there is one subject touched upon in the Speech which I crave leave to refer to in a few sentences. Otherwise, I should be guilty of a most glaring omission. If there is one thing from which we in Canada do not suffer, it is lack of pride. Canadians are a proud people—proud of their country and proud of their countrymen. We believe that the men who are bred in the northern half of the North American continent are second to no race of men in the world. We know that in the native Canadian you will find a stout heart in a strong body, surmounted by an intelligent head. We have known this for a long time; but it has now been demonstrated to the whole world by the magnificent manner in which the Canadian soldiers acquitted themselves during the terrible conflict in South Africa. Their powers of endurance under most difficult circumstances, their valour and steadiness on the field of battle, their willingness and their intelligence have all been attested by officers high in the Imperial service. To say that Canada is proud of