

neighbour as well as myself to go to the United States or any other country and trade in goods without trading in loyalty to the Crown. I wish we could hear the last of this talk of loyalty. For I am sure everybody knows that among the French people, of whom my hon. friend from West Peterborough (Mr. Burnham) has spoken so eloquently, as among the English, Irish or the Scotch, there are none to-day who would sink their allegiance. If there ever were those at any time inclined to forget their own duty and their own best interest in this regard, they were to be found among the supporters of the party now in power.

Now, I wish to say that my people have suffered during the last year for the want of reciprocity. We have in New Brunswick to-day large quantities of lumber piled in the yards adjoining the saw-mills, which lumber could not find its way to the British market because of low prices and because of the difficulty of securing ships which are used by the British importers to carry lumber from other countries. Had we not had some access to the American market last year and this year, half our lumber camps would have been closed. In my own county we have one of the largest saw-mills in the province of New Brunswick. And the whole product of its operation, 25,000,000 feet of lumber cut during last season, has to find sale in the American market. That important company in Gloucester county, the Bathurst Lumber Company, has to-day 600 car loads of lumber awaiting cars on the Intercolonial railway to be shipped to the United States. On that lumber they must pay a duty of \$1.25 per 1,000 feet. Their product, as I have stated, is 25,000,000 feet a year, and I leave to you, Mr. Speaker, the calculation of the amount they have to pay to the United States, which under reciprocity would have been kept among the people of New Brunswick.

We talk of loyalty, but I am sure the Liberal party has shown its loyalty by offering at once on coming into power in 1897, a substantial preference on British goods. Nor was it a small favour which was offered to the people of Great Britain through her industries, for ever since then a marked increase has gone on in the importation of British goods into Canada. In 1897, as shown by the report of the Department of Trade and Commerce, our total importations from Great Britain amounted to only \$29,328,576. This has been increasing by leaps and bounds, and last year, these imports amounted to \$110,585,000. When we consider that this increase is due to the preference granted on British goods by the late Government, we cannot but realise that we have expressed our loyalty in trade as well as in words.

I believe that with the reciprocity arrangement with the United States and a still further increase in the British preference, we might have secured the permanency of tariff of which the Minister of Finance (Mr. White), has spoken so highly to-day; we might have secured enormous benefits to the manufacturers of Canada while also benefitting our farmers and consumers and favouring those engaged in the industries of Great Britain.

As to the United States, we have to deal with them anyhow. Our dealings with the United States are greater than our dealings with any other country and double our dealings with the United Kingdom. We have to send to the United States our lumber and our fish. For a large part of the products of the Maritime provinces fisheries especially our smelt, salmon and mackerel, there is no other market than the American market. We have increased our exportation of fish to the United States by over half a million during the last year, and in my own county the export of fish to the United States was nearly doubled. A few years ago large quantities of our dry codfish had to be sold in the West Indies, Spain or Italy. But to-day fully half of this product is marketed in the United States and brings to the people from \$1.50 to \$1.75 a quintal more than they have ever been paid by dealers in these other countries.

Our total trade with Great Britain during the year 1911 amounted to \$247,551,912, and with the United States \$413,812,003. That trade consisted of raw cotton to the amount of \$12,000,000, and manufactured cotton to the amount of over \$6,000,000.

I understand that the hon. Minister of Trade and Commerce some time ago advised the Canadian Manufacturers' Association that the manufacturers of Canada should look for foreign markets for their products, and should not be content with the markets of Canada. If it is advisable for the manufacturer to look for wider markets, then why should not the farmers of the West also have the benefit of that large and profitable market which the United States offers?

The Speech from the Throne makes reference to the trade agreement which has been entered into with the West Indies, and I wish to congratulate my hon. friend the Minister of Trade and Commerce and the Government of the day on having consummated that ambition of the Liberal party. But the treaty with the British West Indies can only be appreciated to the extent of the advantages of trade and commerce which it offers, and the benefits to be derived in that respect cannot for a moment be compared to those offered by access to the markets of the United States. The population of the West Indies is but four million, as compared with ninety million in the United

Mr. TURGEON.