

closed his speech with his loyalty. I need not allude much to that. He has denounced my hon. friend from South Oxford (Sir Richard Cartwright), but that hon. gentleman did not seem to feel very uneasy about it. I did not feel uneasy myself. If I know myself I believe I am loyal; I never felt it necessary to shout it from the house tops. I took it for granted that every one would believe it, and I am confident that the political party with which I am associated are as loyal as any other people in this country. But, Sir, I think it is unworthy of any man aspiring to be a representative of the people and a statesman to endeavour to draw away public attention from a great question which concerns the welfare of these people, and to try to influence their minds and excite their prejudices against a fair consideration of it, by shouting that disloyalty is contained in it. The Liberal party believe that if we could have more extended and freer trade relations with the great nation to the south of us it would benefit the people of the Dominion of Canada, and believing that, they believe in an honest attempt being made to secure it, and they are willing and anxious to secure it—not for their own glory or renown, not for the sake of attaining the Treasury benches; but they are anxious it shall be obtained and they will be willing and rejoiced if the gentlemen on the Government benches at the present time will accomplish it. In order that these hon. gentlemen opposite may obtain that great boon, we, on this side of the House, have submitted a proposition which will authorize these gentlemen when they go to Washington to confer and negotiate on a broad basis, which may be accepted by the United States, instead of being confined as they have confined themselves by their utterances to a basis which the United States have told them in advance they cannot accept. By the adoption of the resolution moved by the hon. member for South Oxford (Sir Richard Cartwright), this Parliament will give to those representatives a mandate to go to the United States to negotiate for trade relations on a basis they may hope to succeed upon, and it will relieve them from being tied up, as they have tied themselves by previous utterances, to restrict themselves to a limited reciprocity in natural products, which they know they will fail in obtaining. The resolution of the hon. member for South Oxford should commend itself to these hon. gentlemen opposite. The very fact of their going to Washington, the very fact of their attempting negotiations at all, proves, notwithstanding their utterances, that they believe Canada requires extended trade in order that she may prosper; and, Sir, these gentlemen must know, despite their talk, that the English market will be open to us after we have obtained this reciprocity as well as now. The Government must recognize, as the agriculturists and the other classes of the country recognize, the value of freer trade relations with the United States. The futile mission of the Minister of Finance to the islands of the sea in order to attempt to develop a foreign trade shows that he recognizes that Canada is in a position where she must have a broader and wider market, and these gentlemen must know, notwithstanding what they say, that the markets of the United States secured on fair and equitable and honourable terms, would be a boon to the peo-

ple of this country. The Minister of Finance and the Minister of Agriculture may say: What is the United States market to us? But I tell them what any business man knows, that trade knows no favour. A man does not deal with another man, nor a country with another country, simply because of friendship. Trade knows no friendship in that respect, and if the hon. Minister of Finance looks at his own Trade and Navigation Returns he will find that from year to year and down to the present time nearly one-half of the entire trade of this country is done with the nation to the south of us. Sir, it is useless to say that freer trade with a nation with whom we now do about one-half of our whole trade would not be beneficial to this people. Here are two nations side by side engaged in what? The Canadian Parliament engaged in building up an artificial barrier against the United States higher and higher and higher, and the United States Congress on their part building up a tariff wall against Canada higher and higher and still higher, while at the same time millions of money are being expended by both countries for the construction of tunnels and bridges to overcome the barriers which nature has placed between us. We say that if you can by a fair and honourable treaty between this country and the United States remove these artificial barriers which both countries have erected, and allow trade to flow more freely between the two countries, vast and profitable as our trade is now under the adverse circumstances that exist, how much the greater will be the prosperity of the Canadian people when from the channels of trade will be removed the artificial obstructions which the two Governments have created. Sir, it is with the view of benefiting the people of this country that the Opposition have proposed the policy embodied in the resolution submitted to the House, and in accepting that resolution this Parliament will give an opportunity to the Ministry to go to Washington in October to offer to negotiate a treaty on a basis which will secure for them a hearing, while we fear, from an utterance made by one of the public men of the United States, that if they persist in going with their hands tied, as they have been in the past, to a demand for such a treaty as American statesmen have said they will never assent to, their efforts will end in failure, and the people of Canada will not give them credit for a desire to secure reciprocity even in natural products. I regret, Sir, that I have detained the House so long. I must, however, put half the blame on the shoulders of the hon. gentleman who preceded me, to whom I thought I would not be showing sufficient courtesy if I did not deal with the points he brought up. I noted them all down, and have endeavoured to answer them one by one, conscious that a better answer could have been made by others. While I may not have convinced him, I trust that by examining each other's views from our different points of view, we may both find our minds enlarged, and may endeavour to promote legislation in this House which shall be for the best interests of the people of Canada.

Mr. MONTAGUE. After the very eloquent speech of the hon. gentleman, which has been of necessity somewhat lengthy, though not too lengthy, I am sure it would be improper on my