

want to have Canada open as a market to the United States they must open their markets to us. He had in his hand a speech made upon this question by a gentleman of great experience, who had been for a considerable time in Parliament, who, certainly, could not be charged, as he (Mr. Tupper) would be charged on the present occasion, with having had sectional interests in view rather than a liberal general policy which would commend itself to the country. He need not ask the attention of the House to the short but able speech delivered in this House by the hon. member for North Oxford, (Mr. Oliver) and which gave in a small compass the whole argument covering the case. It was made as long ago as 1870, after the hon. gentleman had been several years in Parliament, and when he was in a more independent position than he occupied at present, because he was then in a position to advocate and to press upon the Finance Minister of another Government a policy which he felt was in the interests of the country, and which he could urge without embarrassing the friends with whom he was politically associated. That gentleman in moving for an Address to His Excellency, praying for the imposition of an import duty on wheat, flour, Indian corn, hops, coarse and fine salt and coal, was reported to have said:

"For instance, immense quantities of flour were being imported into the Maritime Provinces which, if a proper duty were imposed, would be supplied by the Upper Provinces.

Whenever there was any excitement or uneasiness in any of our local markets, the facilities afforded to the United States manufacturers were such as to enable them to step in and offer their products on better terms than Canadians. For instance, he stated, that last year we imported into Canada 1,655,000 bushels of Indian corn, which comes into direct competition with our own coarser grains. The larger distillers in the country did not pretend to buy Canadian grain and had no interest in the local market, which, in consequence, suffered great loss. In coal we imported \$951,000 worth, and exported in the face of a restrictive tariff \$630,000 worth. There was no doubt, he said, but that if a proper duty were placed on the article, there would be brought about the free trade which was predicted in the Confederation debates, an interprovincial tariff that would be beneficial to the whole Dominion. \* \* \* He believed it was the interest of the Province to secure to our own people the markets of the country. If American products came into the

country, they should under present circumstances, do so under a tax which would add to the revenue of the country, and which we will require for our large public works."

There was very little to be added to this. Little could be added to it. The hon. gentleman in succinct terms, had, he might say, almost stated the whole case; but he did not overrate either the importance of an inter-provincial trade, or the extent to which it could be promoted by such a policy as he on that occasion advocated. He would detain the House for a very few minutes while he showed the effect in producing inter-provincial trade, that the imposition of a very small and insignificant duty would have. As he had before stated, in 1866 when the Reciprocity treaty was abolished, he had proposed to the Legislature of Nova Scotia, that they should meet it by the re-imposition of the duties as they existed at the time when this treaty went into force; and they imposed a duty of 25c. a barrel on flour, and a small duty on butter and lard, cheese, beef and pork, and he would only detain the House to show the result of the imposition of these duties for a single year. Mark that Confederation had not then taken place; the means of communication and the intercourse between Canada and Nova Scotia were then altogether different from what they were to-day; we had no inter-provincial railway, making easy and rapid and inexpensive transit for the products of Ontario and Quebec down to Nova Scotia, and he thought that the House would be astonished when he gave it the result of the imposition of these slight duties for a single year. In 1866, they imported of beef and pork 6,155 barrels from the United States, and 50 barrels from Canada—that was from Ontario and Quebec—and in 1867, under the imposition of this small impost, they only imported 572 lbs. of beef and pork from the United States, while the import from Canada, notwithstanding the great want of means of communication at the time, rose from 50 to 871 lbs. of butter and lard. They imported from the United States in 1866 90,950 lbs., and 3,840 lbs. from Canada. There was a large increase in that year in the import of butter and lard into the Pro-