

So, in Great Britain, a free trade country, and in Canada then under a tariff of 17½ per cent, these exports decreased pretty much in the same proportion. Contrast this with the period from 1890 to 1893. We find that in Canada the exports of home produce in 1890 were \$85,257,000, while in 1893 these exports had increased by no less than \$20,541,000. In Great Britain, the exports of home produce were \$263,530,000, which, in 1893, had declined by \$45,500,000. I think the trade in home products exported abroad is about the best test of a country's prosperity. Now, Mr. Speaker, I think there is nothing that our friends on the other side dwell upon more than upon the amount of taxes that are being taken out of the people. I often see it quoted, and I think I have heard it on several occasions in this House, that in 1878, under the old regime, the revenue was \$22,375,000, while in 1894 the revenue was increased to \$36,374,000. That is perfectly correct, and the increased amount was received by the Government. But in 1894 we received from the post office, from railways, and from interest on investments, the sum of \$8,795,500, whereas, in 1878, we only received \$4,533,000 from these sources. Here is a gain in these three items alone of \$4,262,000. This is not a matter of taxation. This is what we receive in revenue from the post office, and from railways and canals. Now, the excise is not considered as a matter of taxation. It is not levied upon imports that are brought into the country, it is simply a tax upon whisky, tobacco and some other articles. In 1878, from tobacco and whisky we received the sum of \$4,858,600, whereas in 1894 we received \$8,381,000, that is a gain of over \$3,500,000. Now, customs alone, in 1878, yielded \$12,782,800; in 1894 they yielded \$19,198,100, the actual increase being \$6,415,300. It was natural that there should be an increase from 1878 to 1894; it is not supposed that the country would stand still; it is not supposed that we could build the great works that have been undertaken and finished between 1878 and 1894 without a large revenue. Now, the actual increase per cent on the imports from 1873 to 1878, was considerably larger than it has been from 1878 to 1894. If we had the same rates of duty in 1894 as we had in 1878, we could have collected \$15,867,085 additional, whereas the actual increase was only \$3,331,000. Now, we have been collecting a revenue largely upon articles that are not necessities of life for a vast number of our population, we have been collecting largely from what are called the luxuries of life. Take, for instance, ale and porter, I do not think the hon. member for Wentworth (Mr. Bain) would consider those articles necessities of life. I have here a table showing the duties collected on various articles in 1878 and 1894, respectively:

DUTIES COLLECTED.

	1878.	1894.
Ale and porter.....	\$ 43,863	\$ 65,661
Spirits	1,000,864	2,036,559
Wines	207,566	309,339
Tobacco	188,530	287,702
Patent medicines.....	29,744	62,937
Perfumery	5,953	10,280
Playing cards.....	4,014	10,013
Plate glass.....	14,467	66,668
Gold and silver manufac...	41,496	79,418
Silks and satins.....	246,669	743,402
Jewellery	46,404	51,124
Totals.....	\$1,829,570	\$3,772,540

The hon. member for Wentworth complained of the condition of the farmer. Well, in 1878 we imported of produce that is largely grown in this country, a total of \$15,222,050; in 1894 we imported of the same articles \$2,866,483. In breadstuffs alone, in 1878, we imported \$13,452,460; in 1894 we imported \$1,211,210. In all these articles, that is animals, breadstuffs, eggs, hay, provisions, plants and trees, vegetables and fresh fruits, in 1878, the imports amounted to \$15,222,000 and in 1894, to \$2,866,483. But if we imposed the tax that existed in 1878 upon five articles that are very much used in this country by all classes, we would have collected \$9,028,304 of revenue, which have been remitted within the last four or five years. In 1878 there was a duty levied upon black tea of 5 cents per pound, of which we imported 9,772,334 pounds in 1894, which would have yielded a revenue of \$488,616. There was a duty upon green tea of 6 cents per pound, which would have yielded a revenue in 1894 of \$566,133. There was a duty upon coffee of 2 cents per pound, which would have yielded a revenue of \$59,312. There was a duty of \$2.45 per cwt. upon sugar, which would have yielded a revenue of \$7,442,945. There was a duty upon coal oil of 7 1-5 cents per gallon, which would have yielded a revenue of \$471,298, if the same duty were imposed as in 1878. But instead of that sum, the duty collected was only \$392,743 from coal oil. So that the people were relieved, taking the same importations of those articles, of \$8,635,000 from 1878 to 1894. Now, we are often reminded that the taxation is very high upon several articles in this country. But hon. gentlemen forget that in the year 1894 there were over \$51,000,000 worth of free goods entered in this Dominion. In the first place, we had anthracite coal to the value of \$6,355,285, admitted free; then we had 950,000 tons of salt imported into this country free. We had cork wood, largely used by fishermen, imported free to the value of \$19,661. We are often told that taxes fall upon those who are least able to bear them; but I see that of silks, raw and unmanufactured, we only had \$206,325 worth imported. We had broom corn, fibre, vegetable fibre, fruits, hemp (undressed), seeds, sugar, tobacco, trees and other articles, making up at least over \$10,000,000