

The Crimean war was not yet over when it commenced ; wheat was higher in price than ever before or since, and, as the Yankee would say, a "general boom" pervaded the land. Then followed the local expenditure upon the construction of the Grand Trunk Railway, and the Sepoy rebellion in India, while the year 1861 saw the inauguration of the terrible civil war which rent the Republic in twain, took millions from the field and plough, and made the Canadian farmer completely master of the situation.

. It is not, therefore, to be wondered at that recollections of the reciprocity treaty should still have a glamour to the eyes of the farmers in the Dominion.

Confederation followed the sudden abrogation of the treaty, and the fiscal policy of the Government was a tariff averaging $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., levied chiefly for revenue purposes. This was all right while the United States was recovering from the effects of the war, but when about 1873 and during the time that the Liberals held power, the Americans began to pour cheap goods over the seventeen per cent. tariff and practically obtained control of our markets, whilst we were debarred from theirs by duties running from thirty to forty per cent., the effects soon became evident in a depression very much greater than any prevalent in other countries. It was not, therefore, wonderful that Sir John Macdonald and the Conservative party should have carried the elections of 1878 upon the "National Policy" or proposed system of moderate protection, which it was intended should be adjusted to the changing circumstances of the hour. Since that date protection has been the platform of the people, and undoubtedly it has, combined with the unifying effects of Sir John's general policy, done much to build up the Dominion, create inter-provincial trade and expand external commerce. An analysis of the trade under these respective policies may be of interest.

EXPORTS OF THE BRITISH NORTH-AMERICAN PROVINCES.

Reciprocity Period 1855-66.....	\$623,922,813
Revenue tariff 1867-78.....	841,614,764
Protective " 1879-90.....	1,089,469,841