

pire. That is the view I take of this matter from long experience in watching events and studying the character of those who came from the United States years and years ago. We find them just as loyal and just as true to the country as if they were born here or came from the motherland. There is plenty of room in this Dominion, as the address very properly points out, for millions of settlers, and I re-echo the remark of the hon. gentleman who seconded the motion, that there are very few who have travelled over other portions of the globe and studied the character and condition of the people who inhabit other countries and compare them with the people and the prosperity that exists in Canada, but must admit that there is not a country under the sun where the people are more contented or more prosperous or progressive than they are in Canada. The growth of the country has proved that every day. I may not live for many years, but I predict that the population of our northwestern provinces will be quadrupled in my day, and I trust that the time is not far distant when the output of that country will be such as to provide the food supply of the mother country. It is rapidly reaching that point, and when that position is attained, perhaps the objection which exists so strongly in England at the present time among English statesmen, to preferential trade relations between us, will vanish. That cannot be accomplished in a day. It requires time, perseverance and study. It requires certain concessions and give and take trade relations between the two countries before that can be brought about. Confederation proved that. The union began with all kinds of tariffs; different tariff policies in different provinces, and when, as the country grew, the necessity for more money became apparent, every portion of the Dominion acquiesced in the action of the government when they raised the tariff, and the people of the various provinces identified themselves as citizens of one great country. In the same way in the working out of an imperial policy, the people of Great Britain will be willing to surrender certain strong views which they have upon a commercial policy in order to meet the wishes and the feelings of other portions of the empire. You could have no better illustration of that

than in the United States, where a diversity of opinion exists to a greater extent in the west and in the east and in the central portion of that country. The tariff which is particularly adapted to one section is not acceptable to the fullest possible extent to another, but they learned as they became blended together that it is necessary for each to make certain concessions in order to make their country prosperous, and such I believe will be the case within the empire in the very near future. So far as the increased trade between Britain and Canada is concerned, I notice in another paragraph that the increase of trade and the increase of revenue is referred to. Just in proportion to the growth of the country and just in proportion to the lowering of the tariff will the imports become greater. I know that there is a difference of opinion about that. If the government intend to reduce the tariff the revenues will continually crawl up, but it will have another effect upon the material industries of the country which I shall very much regret to see brought about. I do not propose, however, to deal with that subject at the present moment, but I would say to my hon. friends opposite that there is no period in a man's life individually, and there is no period in the history of a country, when there is a greater necessity for caution, than in the large expenditures which are entered into on account of the increased volume of revenue at any particular time. It very often occurs with an individual that during a very prosperous period he rushes into extravagance that he afterwards has to suffer for. Countries do precisely the same thing, and unless the government exercise due caution and a more economical policy, the country may find itself in precisely the same position as the individuals to whom I have referred. The next paragraph in the address refers to waters and navigation. I confess I am not fully informed, nor do I understand what is to be accomplished by the invitation which has been given, as indicated in this address, by the President of the United States, that the government of Canada should form a portion of an international commission composed of three representatives from each country to investigate and report upon the condition and the uses of the waters adjacent to the bound-