

world with the most redundant revenue and the enormous powers of improvement that she possesses, the reverse condition cannot be good for Canada. The United States, I will acknowledge, is working on the same policy as the people of Canada are: they export \$300,000,000 more than they import; but if the people of the United States were exporting at the same rate as we have done for the past six months, they would be exporting \$850,000,000 more than they import, which, I think, would be figures sufficiently high to alarm even that country that appears to be so thoroughly wedded to protection. I do not think that I shall trespass on the patience of the House any more by discussing the trade question further. I should like, before I close, to move an amendment to the address, and I do not know whether it would be wise to prolong the discussion. The address says:

I am glad to know that the trade and commerce of the Dominion and more especially the improvement in value of our principal exports have increased in value during the past eighteen months.

I wish to add the words:

But I regret that the importations into Canada in return for these exportations have not kept pace with the agricultural exportations of the country.

Hon. Mr. MILLS—If the excess has gone towards the payment of indebtedness abroad, the hon. gentleman ought not to regret that.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—No, but if it has gone to pay the speculative Canadian Pacific Railway or to other stocks, then, I do regret it, and what is more, the hon. gentleman knows that the burden of paying the country's debts should not be imposed on the necessities of the people. If I move that amendment he will be able to explain exactly where it is. There is one thing to which I should like to call the attention of hon. gentlemen which I omitted, and that is with regard to the Mounted Police, that the government have found it necessary to withdraw a very large number of the Mounted Police in order to assist in keeping law and order in the Yukon region. Any expenditure they may find it necessary to make in that direction I think will be thoroughly supported by the country so long as it is continued on sound economic principles. I want to see the labour of the Mounted Police expended entirely within Canadian bounds and for the benefit of Canada; at the same time, I wish to call

attention to complaints which have reached us time and again in the North-west Territories that the police are being drawn off from their legitimate duty, which they have been in the habit of performing for a number of years in that country, keeping down the improper use of intoxicating liquor and others there and also the general duties that they have performed. I hope that the government will consider that the burden of maintaining the force in the Yukon district should be quite apart from the necessities that may hereafter arise in the maintenance of the protection which has contributed so materially to the success of our settlement in the North-west. If that protection should be withdrawn, it would be, to a certain extent, disastrous to the interests which are springing up and which require the protection that the government has so far afforded. There is one thing before I conclude, I should like to say upon the question that is not referred to in the speech, and very properly, because it is, to a certain extent, a dead issue in its present form; but what I want to say is, when I was in England I took an opportunity of visiting one of the public schools there in one of the poorer districts, in the Borough Road, in order that I might see what they did and how they managed, and everything that I saw there pleased me exceedingly. It was a magnificent school, capable of holding about 1,500 children. The building was three stories high, each story an exact counterpart of the other, I was shown over the whole building and the girls and the boys were kept entirely separate. The girls had their play ground on the top of the building; the boys in the centre of the building, and the kindergarten children had the other end of the building. Then I went into the class rooms. In one they were having their morning lesson. It was just 9.30 a.m., and the curriculum that governed the whole of the schools—that is what is called the board schools, we call them national schools—the first half hour of every day, after breakfast, was teaching the Bible. Every day year in and year out, as long as the child is there, he is taught the Bible without any sectarian or religious teaching of any kind of description. I asked what the children knew. The whole class stood up and repeated the chapter they were then engaged in learning correctly from end to end. That struck me as being something