

of communication. In the production of these structural materials, the opportunity opening for trade with a free American market is without limit. The business might employ millions of capital and tens of thousands of laborers but for the tariff. The total export of minerals from Ontario during the years from 1869 to 1888 was of the value of \$17,675,391. Of that, \$14,332,497 went to the United States, \$3,340,317 to Great Britain, while \$2,577 went to all the rest of the world. We have vast mineral resources in Ontario, as well as in British Columbia and Nova Scotia. We have silver and gold in this country. The Commission visited a silver district west of Port Arthur which, I believe, will prove to be the finest silver district on this continent. I believe my hon. friend the member for Algoma (Mr. Dawson) will bear me out in the statement that that it is likely to be the most productive silver region known on the American continent. That district would receive a vast development from the removal of trade restrictions. It is true that there is no duty on silver ore, but, if we could obtain the introduction of machinery free of duty and could attract the attention of American capitalists to that region, we would obtain a great impetus to the development of the silver resources west of Port Arthur and the gold resources near the Lake of the Woods.

I recently visited the south, and I saw that millions of dollars were pouring into that country, that a magical era of development had commenced, and that a new south was being created. Birmingham, Alabama, is a town of 50,000 inhabitants, which has grown up, I might say, like Jonah's gourd, in a night. I saw another city, called Bessemer city, with great furnaces and rolling mills, where not a tree was cut twenty months ago. I saw towns being built up, cities springing into existence, railways under construction or recently built, and agriculture benefited by the vast amount of capital which was poured into that country, and I asked myself: Why do we not share in this swelling tide progress? The answer is that the duties keep the capital out. Americans look upon Canada as a foreign country. The truth is that the duties deprive us of the advantages which we might otherwise obtain, and of the millions of capital which would come in here, the railways which would be constructed, the cities which would be built, and the vast development of our interests which would result if those duties were removed. I believe that in five years, with free trade with the United States, our mineral production would receive a development equal to \$20,000,000 a year, and that would involve an expenditure of \$12,000,000 per annum for labor alone. I want to know if the laborers of this country are not interested in a policy which in minerals alone, would add, in all probability, \$12,000,000 a year to the expenditure for labor.

Now, I wish to call attention to the Provinces in this Dominion whose exports of the produce of Canada to the United States exceed their exports to Great Britain. First, we have Ontario, which in 1883 exported \$23,074,733 to the United States and \$4,000,360 to Great Britain. Nova Scotia exported \$1,115,641 to the United States, and \$1,823,832 to Great Britain. Prince Edward Island exported \$915,951 to the United States and \$80,626 to Great Britain. British Columbia in the same year exported \$2,228,385 to the United States, and \$1,029,110 to Great Britain. So that, from those Provinces, there were \$29,334,710 worth of exports to the United States, and \$6,933,928 to Great Britain. What does that teach? Here are four of the seven Provinces that export to the United States almost five times more than their total exports to England. When I come to the classification of these exports, the produce of Canada to the United States and the exports to Great Britain, I find the following:

Mr. CHARLTON.

	United States.	Great Britain.
The Mine .....	\$ 3,341,308	\$ 478,260
The Fisheries .....	3,123,853	1,544,901
The Forest .....	10,622,338	8,932,177
Agricultural Products .....	10,306,278	4,292,640
Miscellaneous Articles .....	701,616	66,840
	<b>\$28,095,393</b>	<b>\$15,314,318</b>

This shows the vast volume of our trade with the United States, and the character of that trade; it shows that four Provinces of the Dominion have enormously greater transactions with the United States than with Great Britain. In the items of agricultural produce exported from Canada to the United States and Great Britain, I find the following, and this is a table worthy of careful scrutiny:

	United States.	Great Britain.
Horses .....	\$2,402,371	\$ 36,750
Sheep .....	1,027,410	211,881
Poultry .....	123,222	1,982
Eggs .....	2,119,532	262
Hides, horns and skins .....	515,220	25,634
Wool .....	223,125	.....
Barley .....	6,468,317	700
Beans .....	124,214	.....
Hay .....	800,632	64,781
Malt .....	154,145	.....
Potatoes .....	357,570	973
Vegetables .....	93,102	259
	<b>\$14,427,900</b>	<b>\$343,220</b>

Sir, these returns require no comment. They show how vast our trade is with the United States, and they show that in all these important productions our trade is almost exclusively with the United States; and the constructive loss of the country through being debarred of access to that market that we enjoyed between 1854 and 1866, is actually and positively beyond computation or belief. Now, the duty paid on our exports of \$37,323,161 to the United States last year amounted, at a rough estimate, to \$5,750,000, of which \$2,500,000 was upon our agricultural products. It is an interesting question, and I referred to it last year, it is indeed a matter of prime importance, to understand the bearing of the case—who pays this duty—of probably \$5,750,000 on the productions of Canada that went into the United States, on which duty was collected in that country. Now, I propose to examine the proportion that our imports to the United States bear to the total production of that country in the same line:

	Canadian Export.	United States Production.	Proportion.
Mine .....	\$ 3,341,308	542,284,000	1/80
Fisheries .....	3,123,853	42,536,000	1/13
Forest .....	10,622,338	291,585,000	1/27
Horses .....	No. 19,925	13,172,936	5/83
Horned cattle .....	No. 40,047	49,235,000	1/120
Swine .....	No. 1,276	44,348,000	1/3400
Sheep .....	No. 353,999	43,544,000	1/122
Eggs .....	doz. 14,147,739	.....	.....
Hides and skins .....	\$ 515,220	.....	.....
Wool .....	lbs. 354,189	285,000,000	1/800
Barley .....	bu h. 9,360,521	60,000,000	1/6
Wheat .....	bush. 777,698	457,218,000	1/585
Hay .....	tons. 84,068	41,796,000	1/487
Malt .....	bush. 193,14	18,273,000	1/90
Potatoes .....	bush. 2,486,441	168,051,000	1/67

Now, Sir, under these circumstances, with the small volume of our importations to that country as compared with the production of the same article in that country, it is preposterous to suppose that the duty levied upon these articles depressed the price of the enormous bulk of these several articles in that country to whose amount the volume of our importations bore such an insignificant proportion. We paid the duty. We receive for our horses, for our coal, for our barley, for every article upon that list that we exported to the United States, just exactly the amount received in that country, less the duty taken from it. In fact, that is not a fair statement of the case, because we lose more than