

that is their practical way of doing things. Now, if that argument does not prove to you and this Dominion, that we are the biggest fools in Canada, I don't know what would persuade you. If you have to pay \$17.50 of debt to a man, that man can compel you to pay \$100 besides, and no doubt if any person compelled you to pay that \$100 you certainly would almost feel like shooting him. I tell you what you will do, pay your \$17.50 and keep your \$100; surely it is easier for a man to pay \$17.50 and retain \$100 in your pocket, than to send \$100 out and then pay the \$17.50; but they will say we cannot get it without a Custom House and a number of Officers, to receive from \$500 to \$4,000 per annum. Would it not be better to close all these institutions up, and the same money that pays them in the Custom House would collect it directly every year.

I don't know what you may think, Mr. Chairman, but I think it is the greatest madness in the world to let things go on in that course, that is to send out \$100,000,000 a year, that the Government of our country may have power to tax us \$17,500,000. Now, direct taxation, would be six times better than that, that is, you have \$82,500,000 left every year to your own good, far preferable to collect it as a municipal tax than to impoverish the country as we are doing, by sending out this \$100,000,000 a year.

Now consider what the goods cost you. You see you employ the foreign mechanic to make these goods, 3,000 miles distant, and then you employ the steamboats and agents to fetch them to you, and you take the same course to carry your goods back to these mechanics; and to illustrate it more clearly, you send 100 pounds of wheat to London or Liverpool, which sells for \$3.00, that is at the rate of three cents per pound; the average price in Canada is two cents, one cent less than you get. Now, there is one cent per pound more that the mechanics have to pay for your wheat in Liverpool, than he would have if he lived in Toronto. This you will have to pay to import the goods that he manufactured, which is a third dearer than it should be, and would be if he was in Toronto or in Canada. Then you have to pay about another third on the same goods to the Railways and Steamboats, in the shape of interest, carriage and commission, before you can get them. Now I hope you all see that every article that you import cost you \$3.00 for every one it should cost, or you must do with one article where you might have three if you choose at the same money, manufactured at your own door. But some will say you must send the products of the country out yourself if you have any to spare. Is there any common sense in keeping a man manufacturing your

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