

tion from Britain and the United States between 1868 and 1891 were as follows: -

		Canadian Imports from United States.	Canadian Imports from Great Britain.
Aggregate for five years	1868-72	\$141,000,000	\$223,000,000
do do	1873-77	250,000,000	272,000,000
do do	1878-82	207,000,000	197,000,000
do do	1883-87	244,000,000	222,000,000
do for four years	1888-91	205,000,000	167,000,000
Total		\$1,047,000,000	\$1,081,000,000

Our borrowings from Britain come in the form of manufactures, dry goods, etc. Note, however, the greater growth of purchases from the States notwithstanding the double row of custom houses on the frontier. If you drive out nature with a pitchfork she is sure to come running back. Trade with our neighbors flourishes despite hostile tariffs, but we should be vastly better off if tariffs and boundaries were abolished and we became full partakers in the commercial and industrial life of the United States, with the British market still open, as it would be, to our surplus wares. Does any sensible person believe that Michigan, Minnesota, New York or Pennsylvania would have grown as they have if they had been cut off from the rest of the Union? Would they not have suffered as we are suffering from arrested development and the manifold evils that accompany it?

There are object lessons in the history of Ireland and Scotland from which our population is so largely recruited. At one time England prohibited the importation of Irish cattle, sheep and swine, beef, pork, bacon, mutton, butter and cheese. The chief source of Irish prosperity was annihilated at a blow. Then Irish wool was embargoed and Irish linens taxed 30 per cent. The consequence was that Irish industry well-nigh perished and free trade with England became the shibboleth of the whole population. Scotland had a parliament of her own down to 1707. She was excluded from trade with the colonies, her trade with England was severely hampered by customs taxes, her agriculture languished, her manufactures were weak, her mines unopened. Just before the union, England threatened to embargo Scotch cattle, coal, linen and other staples. The emancipation of trade by the removal of the customs line was a policy that commended itself to every Scotchman. Political union brought that about and Scotland began to prosper as

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