

there is an encrease over the year preceding. The Mineral Exports of the Province are quoted at the low amount of £23,466 8s. 8d., but it is probable that ere many years have passed, there will be a considerable encrease on this head.

4. The financial state of the Province seemed to me to justify the insertion of the following paragraph in the Speech delivered from the Throne at the commencement of the present Session of the Provincial Parliament :

“ You may probably be of opinion that the prosperous condition of the Revenue affords an opportunity of which Parliament may properly avail itself to revise the existing Tariff, with a view to the removal of such duties as affect Raw Materials employed in ship building and other branches of Manufacture within the Province, and to the reduction of others to which articles entering largely into the consumption of the people are now subject.”

Resolutions in the spirit of the above recommendation, and substituting to a certain extent specific for *ad valorem* duties, have passed the Legislative Assembly. That measures of this description should be practicable at a time when the nation of which this Colony forms a part, is engaged in war with one of the greatest Empires of the earth, and that the external commerce of the Province should be hampered at such a crisis neither by war freights nor war insurances, are striking proofs both of the power of England and of the liberality of her Colonial policy.

5. As this is probably the last Report on the affairs of Canada which I shall have the honor of submitting, I avail myself of the opportunity to append some statistics taken from official sources, supplementary to those which accompanied the despatches to which I have already referred, and illustrative of the advance which the Province has been making during the last few years. Such a review is the more appropriate at this time, as the adoption of reciprocal freedom of Trade in natural products with the United States, may be held to inaugurate a new era in the Commercial history of Canada, and to close the period during which the Province has been exposed in the British markets to the competition of the United States, without being admitted on equal terms to those of the latter country.