

average farmer can raise five acres of potatoes and get rid of his product at some price in Quebec or Ontario. We also sell something to Cuba. I have a return which I obtained from the Department of Customs and I will send it over to any of my hon. friends who wish to see it. It will be seen that we have sent a few New Brunswick potatoes to Cuba—last year not very many, only about 50,000 or 60,000 bushels, and the year before about the same. Four or five years ago we sent a great many more. The Government of Canada granted a subsidy of \$25,000 a year to a line of steamers sailing from St. John to Cuba for the purpose of trying to find an outlet for our potatoes and the Government of New Brunswick did something towards that object also. They established a warehouse in Cuba and also a warehouse in St. John. Everybody has realized that the great problem in New Brunswick, in so far as agriculture is concerned for the last five or six years, has been to find a market for these potatoes. We realize that once you give us a market there is no end to the production; we could raise ten times the amount we produce today if we could get a market. We tried to find a market in Cuba but this has been somewhat of a failure. We have to send forth the potatoes over a thousand miles by sea to a tropical climate and when we get there we find that there is a potato trust which is big enough to squeeze out every person who does not pay tribute to the trust. The result is that the effort has been almost a total failure. We cannot send potatoes to Europe because they are cheaper there than they are here. Therefore, we are circumscribed down to what we can do in the Dominion of Canada alone and there is just a certain limit beyond which we cannot go. There is no use producing more than we can find a market for and we cannot find a market unless we can get it in the United States.

During the summer of 1913 it became known that the American duty was going to be greatly reduced, if not entirely removed. The potato-growers of Maine are a very influential body of men and one of the brightest lot of farmers that I suppose exists on the continent of America to-day, men, who I am satisfied, are the richest class of farmers that you can find in America, a class that have grown so wealthy raising potatoes on exactly the same soil as we have that every other farmer in the States rides around in an automobile. It

[Mr. Carvell.]

would do my friends from Ontario good to spend three or four days in Aroostook county in the state of Maine; it would be a revelation that they have never dreamed of. I am not here to praise up the state of Maine; I am only showing what we could have in the province of New Brunswick if we had the market to the south of us.

These people were just as narrow as some of our people were in 1911. They believed that the opening of the market of the United States to our potatoes would in some way affect them. They believed that we would produce potatoes enough to affect the American market. They may be right in that but I do not agree with them myself. I do not think they were as much afraid of the Canadian potatoes as of the European potatoes. It turned out that, just as soon as the duty was removed, potatoes went in from New Brunswick and also from other portions of Canada, but in certain quantities only as our powers were limited. We only had a certain quantity to sell. Potatoes came into the United States from Germany, Holland, Scotland, and, I think, from England. The growers of Maine organized themselves and determined to prevent potatoes coming in if they possibly could do so. They did not have to pass any law in the United States; they had a law already. I have forgotten what it is called but they had a law, the same as we have in Canada, which gave to the administration officials the power by regulation, as they call it—we would call it an Order in Council—to prohibit the importation of any diseased products. The potato-growers of Maine asked the United States Government to prohibit the importation of potatoes into the United States from all countries in which disease could be found. They claimed, and I do not think anybody denies it now, that there is an enormous amount of disease among German potatoes and there is also disease amongst the English and Scotch potatoes. They claimed that there was also disease in the Canadian potatoes. We found quite early in the season representatives of big American firms travelling through New Brunswick and examining our fields in order to see if they could find the existence of the disease which they called powdery scab.

Some of my hon. friends sent over here, I think in a jocular manner, a document which I hold in my hand. I will tell these hon. gentlemen that this is not a jocular matter in the province of New Brunswick. It is something which is issued by the Department of Agriculture here and for