

justify, and more than justify, all that I have said, or shall say, in denunciation of this treaty as an unmitigated cheat and swindle.

I propose to examine, first, the effects of this treaty upon our Federal revenues. During the year 1854, which was the last year previous to the taking effect of the treaty, we derived a revenue from articles imported from Canada alone, which are now made free by the treaty, of about \$1,250,000, and including all the provinces embraced in the treaty, amounting to more than \$1,500,000. Assuming that the revenues from these sources would have continued to increase since that year in the same ratio that it had increased for five years previously, it would have now reached nearly two millions per annum, if the treaty had never been made, and would have amounted in the aggregate, since the time that the treaty took effect, to more than *eleven millions of dollars*. But this branch of our foreign commerce, instead of yielding us an annual revenue of some \$2,000,000, is now, under the operation of the treaty, an actual drain upon the treasury to the extent of about *fifty thousand dollars per annum*. For since the treaty went into operation, the revenue received at the various ports of entry on our northern frontier, has so fallen off, that the expenses of collecting it during the last four years exceed the gross receipts by the sum of \$189,730. And yet, to guard against the surreptitious introduction of foreign merchandise through these northern ports, it is absolutely necessary to maintain the same custom-house organization on our northern frontier, and at the same expense, as when duties were collected on the articles which now come in duty free.

Mr. Chairman, the fact that this treaty has operated to diminish our revenue, does not necessarily condemn it. If the people have received equivalents in some other form—if it has opened new markets for the products of their labor; if it has lightened the burdens imposed upon their export trade, or stimulated industry and enterprise at home, these benefits should be placed to its credit, and set off against any loss to the Federal revenues which may have resulted from it. But, sir, an examination of its practical operations and effects will reveal no such redeeming traits in its character. It has tended rather to restrict than to enlarge the foreign markets for our exportable productions. It has imposed new burdens upon our export trade, instead of lightening those which before oppressed it. And instead of stimulating domestic industry and enterprise, it has invited the productions of foreign labor and foreign soils to compete with the productions of our own citizens, in our own markets.

The effect of the treaty in throwing upon our markets, duty free, a large increase of Canadian productions, to compete with similar productions of our own soil, is strikingly exhibited by a little table which I will now present. This table shows the amounts of goods imported from Canada, chargeable with duty, and free of duty, for four years next preceding the treaty, in contrast with the amounts of both classes imported during four years subsequent to the treaty.