

inevitable shall yet be restrained within due bounds. Perhaps, after all, it is as well that we, like other people, should be compelled to test our strength and nerve. Better, indeed, in this respect, since we may thus undergo in peaceful fashion the ordeal to which all countries which have ever achieved any real greatness have had, sooner or later, to submit though to them for the most part it has come in the shape of wasting and desolating war. Great benefits, I cannot doubt, will arise, if not to the present generation, at least to the inhabitants who in the future will inhabit these vast regions from the prosecution of this great work, and I am well persuaded that the people of Canada will not shrink from carrying to a satisfactory conclusion the task to which they have set themselves if once they are convinced that it can be achieved on anything like just and reasonable terms. In placing in your hand, Sir, the resolution that this House go into Committee to consider of the supply to be granted to HER MAJESTY, I desire to express my sense of the patience with which I have been listened to by hon. members on both sides of the House.

MEMORANDUM A.

As some discussion has arisen in respect to the question how much of the increase of \$1,375,000 in the Customs receipts of 1874 as compared with those of 1873 are due to the operation (direct or indirect) of the new tariff, it may be as well to summarize a few leading points in reference to this subject, which may be divided into two classes.

1st. Facts with regard to which there can be no dispute.

2nd. Statements based on probabilities arising from these facts, and therefore a matter of opinion, more or less, but strongly corroborated by various incidental circumstances.

As regards the first class, it is absolutely established.—1st. That the total volume of dutiable imports for the first eight months of the fiscal