

of more than 1000 miles in length, and nearly half that distance in width, Lands that by the united action of England and Canada ought speedily to become the happy home of the suffering thousands here. These Lands can supply all the food required for this country, and whether it be to make you independent of Foreigners, or to alleviate present distress arising from redundant population, they offer the readiest and speediest resource.

I shall return to this subject again, but my object in this connection is to shew you that the increase of Customs duties, necessary to meet a deficient revenue, was also imperatively called for in the proper discharge of duties more truly in the interests of the Empire at large than of Canada itself. What possible interest can the Fishermen of Newfoundland, the Farmers and Lumbermen of Quebec, the Sailors and Miners of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, or even the Farmers of Ontario have in the future development of the vast interior of the American Continent, that does not wholly spring out of their character as British subjects, and should not be equally shared by you? Canada's present limited population has been charged with, and has accepted this trust from their fellow countrymen, the cost presses heavily upon them in times of depression, and they have a right to expect generous consideration in regard to the policy of increased taxation on *themselves*, from those who have been wholly relieved of the responsibility which creates these demands.

Claiming then that an increase of Customs' duties had become inevitable, the important question remains, as to the principles that governed its imposition, and whether they justly expose Canadian statesmen to animadversion.

Canada has three great customers, Great Britain, the United States and the West Indian group of Islands. Her Trade with Great Britain has, since 1846, been carried on under the principles of Free Trade on both sides as far as practicable, she has received no advantage over the foreigner in your markets, and on her part she has admitted your products on the closest approximation to Free Trade, which the necessities of revenue permitted. Under Free Trade Great Britain still finds it necessary to raise about thirty millions by Customs, choosing certain Articles for the purpose, while Canada has to raise two and a half millions in like manner. If in the recent Tariff some departure from this policy has been made by Canada, it has entirely been caused by the extreme suffering of certain industries, demanding relief, and rendered irresistible from the policy adopted lately by Canada towards the United States. It is hoped that this state of things may be temporary, and be replaced by arrangements permanently beneficial both to the United Kingdom and to Canada.

You all know that the United States have long pursued a protective policy, but you can scarcely be aware how severely such a policy presses upon the industry of an adjoining Country much weaker in population and wealth. Let me state the