

this desire which is growing and stretching out from the true and solid basis of trade prosperity at home, into a foreign trade with other countries, so that we may compete with foreign countries in the different wares that we make and the different products that we raise. This country and this Government has always been desirous of extending its trade to foreign countries. In all honesty and candor that can be maintained and it cannot be denied. No matter what Government has been on the Treasury benches, no matter what party has been in power, there has been a continuous and a persistent attempt to cultivate better trade relations between this country and the United States of America in a reciprocity that should be fair and equally beneficent to both countries. The negotiations of 1866, of 1869, of 1871, and of 1888, all bear testimony to that. But, Sir, if the country to the south of us will not go upon the lines of the late Reciprocity Treaty, if it will not trade upon lines which are fair and equal to both countries, and if it continues to show, as it has done in the Senate Bill, and as it has in the President's Message, delivered only yesterday, its reiterated adherence to the high and strong protective system that it has placed about its trade—then, Sir, it becomes this country to build upon its own foundations, to develop its own vast natural resources, and to further strengthen the internal industries of the country which will enable her to extend her trade into other countries, and to meet there the competition which will be encountered as Canadians can meet it. This spirit of the people is being implemented by the Government. There are, lying to the south of us, countries that are willing to trade with us and in which an advantageous trade to Canada could be established. The vast country of South America, with its different governments, with its vast natural resources, with its demand for certain articles which we can supply of the best kind, is ready for trade with us on equal conditions with all other countries of the world. The West Indies, rich in elements of trade which complement ours and needing a great many of the products and manufactures which we can supply, afford a field for what we believe to be a permanent and profitable trade. In order to carry out that trade profitably we believe there must be not only regular communication between the two countries, but that there must be also fairly rapid communication as well. This Government is prepared, and has given indications of its determination, to implement the desire of our people to trade with those countries and build up a profitable commerce, and the Government has put in the Estimates, as we have seen, a sum which Parliament will be asked to vote to establish steam communication between this country, South America and the West Indies. I have no doubt at all that if this policy is fairly carried out, as I believe it will be, there can be worked up between Canada and those countries of which I have made mention a large and profitable trade even in the existing state of the tariff relations of the countries concerned. Lying far out to the east of us are China and Japan, and the Government mindful of the possibilities of trade in that direction which has already been developed, has pledged itself to implement the subsidy of the home Government to a direct line of steam communication between the western terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway on the Pacific coast and those countries. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company has already for a number of months had its steamers on that line, and the possibilities of working up a fairly remunerative and profitable trade have been abundantly shown in that time. Why, Sir, to-day the surplus product of our cotton mills finds a profitable market in those distant countries, which a few years ago were inaccessible to a profitable trade, but which to-day, thanks to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and to the enterprise of this country in assisting in the construc-

tion of its road, and thanks to that same company for putting on this line of steam communication, we have a direct line, and one of the best lines, of communication with those great countries to the east. Then, down on the Southern Pacific Ocean lies a vast continent of islands, which have certain wants which Canada can implement, and certain productions which Canada can take; and the Government proposes to ask Parliament to aid in the establishment of a direct line of communication between our western coast and the colonies of Australia and New Zealand; and I think I am permitted to state here that advices which have been received from the Australian colonies are favorable to the consideration of the question of closer trade relations between Canada and the vast countries which lie in the Southern Pacific. Then, we have had an Atlantic service which for a series of years, though fairly good, has not been as good as it should be, taken in connection with the competing lines sailing to the great ports to the south of us; and the Government to-day are considering what means are best adapted for improving that service, and placing it on such a footing that Canadians need not be at all ashamed to compare their route with the lines of steamships which connect with the ports of New York, Boston and Baltimore. In all this there has been the double aim to develop the industry of the country within, and to extend our trade and commerce without. We have done the first, and now our competition is overflowing the borders of our domestic markets and seeking profitable markets outside; and I could, if time permitted, give the House facts which have been gathered from different manufacturers in this country showing to what an extent they have worked up profitable fields for their goods during the last three years in those distant countries of which I have spoken. And, Sir, I believe that to be the proper Canadian policy, that we should look first to this country, first to its industrial improvement and to the development of its great natural resources, that we should live in comity and peace with the nations to the south of us and all other countries in the world; but at the same time, that neither threats of non-intercourse, nor blandishments from without, nor specious pleas from within, should ever be sufficient to induce this country to hand over its commercial independence to any other country in the world. With a share of this continent larger in size than the Republic to the south of us, and immeasurably rich in natural resources, with a population the most hardy in the world by virtue of our climate, with immense productions of the great staples of the world's consumption and use, with a future before us of peace assured under a flag of a country which is the most powerful on the sea and the most powerful the wide world over, I believe that Canada's future lies in a path of steady, courteous treatment of all countries with whom we have intercourse, and of a steady persistent development of her own commercial lines of policy, for the benefit of her own people, and for a land which is to be the home of future millions.

It being Six o'clock, the Speaker left the Chair.

#### After Recess.

Mr. FOSTER. When the House took recess, I was making some remarks with reference to the commerce of Canada and her development in one line of commercial enterprise. That was especially with reference to her foreign commerce, the tables for which are given in our blue-books, and which are the data upon which we must rely for our chief calculations with reference to the improvement of our foreign trade. It will, however, be apparent to the House that the foreign trade of a country is but one branch of the great stream of commercial life and enterprise which helps to develop a country and to transport its