

session of the Senate. The Halifax arbitration went on, and, as already stated, the award was made and the money paid by the United States Government in December, 1878.

MR. WARD'S REPORT.

In 1876, Mr. Ward, from the House Committee on Commerce of the United States Congress, submitted a report on a joint resolution requesting the President to appoint Commissioners to act with British Commissioners for the purpose of investigating and ascertaining on what basis a treaty of reciprocal trade for the mutual benefit of the people of the United States and the Dominion of Canada could be negotiated.

That report is as follows:—

“ The sub-Committee on Commerce, to whom was referred the
“ joint resolution requesting the President of the United States to ap-
“ point three commissioners, by and with the advice of the Senate, to
“ confer with other commissioners duly authorized by the Government
“ of Great Britain, or whenever it shall appear to be the wish of that
“ Government to appoint such commissioner, to investigate and ascer-
“ tain on what basis a treaty of reciprocal trade, for the mutual benefit
“ of the people of the United States and the Dominion of Canada could
“ be negotiated, respectfully report:—

“ Whether the proper object of a tariff is the collection of neces-
“ sary revenue, or, in addition to this, special regard should be had
“ to what is termed ‘protection to home industry,’ the commercial
“ relations of the citizens of the United States with their Canadian
“ neighbors on the north are of an exceptional and peculiar character.
“ The productions of Canada are chiefly the prime necessities of
“ life, not articles of luxury, on which high duties are most appropri-
“ ately levied, and alike in both countries, are collected from articles
“ imported from the Old World. The Dominion is in many places lit-
“ erally close to our own doors, its frontier extends across the continent
“ from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and our territories are so closely
“ indented with each other that a line drawn from the northern limit
“ of Maine eastward to ocean and westward to the northern limit of the
“ United States, on Lake Superior, would separate nearly all the well
“ settled portion of Canada from the rest of her possessions. Including both
“ sides, there is, under the present condition of the tariffs, a frontier of
“ lake and river having some 6,000 miles of shore, affording great facili-
“ ties for smuggling, to be guarded, and for many thousands of miles
“ more on the east and west the boundary is marked by imaginary
“ lines so easily passed that stores might be built on them, as they are
“ said to have been, in such manner that goods imported under the
“ tariff of the United States or produced there might be sold on one
“ side, and those imported into Canada or produced there might be sold
“ on the other, for the benefit of customers who know little patriotism
“ or friendship in trade. No wonder that the Secretary of the Treasury
“ in his recent report, referring to a small part only of the distances,
“ found it his duty to point out that ‘the difficulties attending a proper
“ surveillance of our northern frontier are, under existing circumstances,
“ very great if not in some respect insurmountable.’ ”