

We want no share in paying the expenses of England's foreign wars; we do not want to assist her in fighting the Afghans in Afghanistan, or the Arabs in the Upper Egypt, or the Zulus in South Africa. We do not want to bear a share of the expense of maintaining her army or navy. Such an arrangement would largely increase our burthens. We might be called upon, if England required it, to furnish a large quota of troops to help her, and we would prefer to run our own concerns, attend to our own business, and trade on equal and unrestricted terms with our neighbors to the south.

I am happy to say I am about through, and I feel as much relieved as my friend opposite. I have indulged perhaps in some criticism that may not be palatable to my hon. friends opposite, and if I have, I entreat them not to "bring in the Sepoy to shoot me in my tracks." I have spoken, as I believe, in the interests of the people of this country, and I believe I have advanced sentiments and opinions which will carry the vast majority of the people. If there is common sense, if there is a deep appreciation of what appertains to their best interests, this policy of unrestricted reciprocity with the United States must and will commend itself to the great majority of the people of Canada. Our friends on the other side may hoot, they may scout it, they may laugh it to scorn, but the logic of events will convince them that they have failed to interpret the signs of the times. If this arrangement is consummated, if these two great peoples are brought into more intimate commercial relations with each other, if the barriers that keep back the forces which have advanced the United States so greatly in their course are removed, and we are allowed to have the unimpeded play of those forces upon us, we will reach the position which we hope to see. Without the play of those forces upon us, without the intercourse with that people and the influence of the forces which have made the United States a people of sixty-two millions and the richest nation in the world, we will continue in the way we have been plodding on in a ratio of progress which is unsatisfactory and slow. The bearing of this question as between England and the United States, were this arrangement consummated, would be most salutary. The only cause of trouble that I can see at present existing between these two countries is likely to arise in Canada itself, and, with free trade relations with unimpeded commercial intercourse, with perfect amity which the removal of these causes of dissatisfaction and irritation would bring about, the relations between the United States and England would naturally become more amicable, and would therefore be more conducive to the prosperity and well being of both of these great branches of the Anglo Saxon race and of every other Anglo Saxon community on the face of the globe. Those two great countries produced last year 63 per cent. of all the iron that was produced in the world; 69 per cent. of all the steel that was produced in the world; they had one-half of all the exports and imports of the whole globe; they had 68 per cent. of the shipping, and 60 per cent. of the manufactures of the world. These two great powers, acting in concert, with amicable relations between them, are able to sway the destinies of the world. The idea of Anglo-Saxon unity is a magnificent dream, but I believe it is destined to become a mighty reality; and with the United States, with its vast capabilities, its vast power, and its enormous wealth, creating, as it is, a mighty navy, with England commanding the approach to the Mediterranean and to the Red Sea, and swaying one-fifth the population of the world, with an Empire in India, another Empire at the Antipodes, and a third founded in South Africa, I say that these two nations acting in concert would promote the best interests of civilisation and realise the highest hopes of humanity. And the most pregnant step towards that union would, in my opinion, be to bring about uninterrupted, unimpeded trade between the seven commonwealths of the

Dominion of Canada and the forty-two commonwealths of the United States of America. We can promote that great end, and at the same time promote our own interests by bringing to bear the forces that will make this country populous and wealthy, with its mines developed, with its agricultural resources developed, with its commercial resources developed, with the prairies covered with prosperous towns and thriving villages, and brought under cultivation by millions of people who will then populate them. The coming of the time when these results will be fully consummated will be greatly accelerated by the adoption of this proposed measure which forms the cardinal plank in the policy of the Liberal party of this Dominion. Believing it to be my duty to further that result as much as I can, I beg to second the motion of the hon. member for South Oxford and to pledge for the promotion of it my support in this House and outside of it.

Mr. WHITE. (Renfrew). Mr. Speaker, rising, as I do, at this late hour of the night, to discuss the motion placed in your hands, it is not my intention to occupy the time of the House at any very great length. The able exposition which the hon. the Minister of Finance has given of the fiscal position of Canada to-day, and the brilliant speech delivered this afternoon by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries are, in my opinion, a sufficient defence of the Government's policy, and the whole case of the Conservative party might well be left to them; but, after listening to the speech of the hon. gentleman who has just spoken on the other side of the House, I deem it my duty as a Canadian to raise my voice in opposition to the views which that hon. gentleman has put forth. In listening to the speech of the hon. gentleman (Mr. Charlton), and to the manner in which he decried the position of Canada and lauded the position of the United States, I thought that the speech he delivered to-night would have been more appropriately delivered on the floor of Congress. It is a regrettable circumstance that a gentleman who is charged with the mandate of a constituency owing allegiance to the British Empire should have given expression to the sentiments to which that hon. gentleman has given expression to-night. It is not my intention to follow him through all the intricacies of figures and statistics with which he regaled the House, but I shall endeavor, as concisely as I can, to present my views as to the position of Canada to-day and the possibilities of obtaining a larger measure of trade relations with the people of the United States, and what would be the position of Canada or the advantages to be gained by such a larger measure of trade. The hon. member for South Oxford (Sir Richard Cartwright), in the speech he delivered here the other night, followed the course which he has adopted from 1879 to the present time. He began by decrying this country. He continued, as he has done on former occasions, by declaring that the people, by supporting the policy of the present Administration, had given evidence of their folly and stupidity. I have listened to that statement every Session since the time when the people in their might hurled the hon. gentleman and the Government of which he was a member from the position which they occupied from 1873 to 1878. Now, the hon. gentleman declares that the country is in such a position that it requires some drastic measure to remove the evils under which it is laboring, and in support of that he said that we were suffering from an exodus, that we were suffering from a depreciation in the value of our farming lands, and that we were suffering in various other ways of which he spoke. I do not propose to deal to-night with the question of the exodus, but I would call attention to this fact: We all remember with what volubility the hon. member for South Oxford (Sir Richard Cartwright) Session after Session laid before Parliament what he was pleased to call the