

and had contributed so largely to the state of prosperity that attracted them thither. As compared to Canada the population of the United States is about ten to one; therefore the statistics of Canada in regard to trade, multiplied by ten would show what ought to be the due proportion of the same comparative statistics of the United States. It is a very easy thing to calculate, our population reaching very nearly five millions, and the population of the United States being about fifty millions, but it must be remembered that when we compare populations there is a vast difference in one respect. Canada is the home of a thriving, intelligent, industrious people, standing largely upon an equality in respect to holding the franchise, and in respect to the intelligence by which that franchise is exercised. Unfortunately in the United States at the outset there was an introduction of a servile population; the troubles which arose out of slavery and culminated in the war of 1860 still left that servile element largely in possession of the land it had tilled. The slaves, notwithstanding their manumission, and the bestowal of the franchise—notwithstanding everything that could be done for them in the way of education, have proved to be as one might say *adscriptus glebae*. Most of them are still on the soil on which they were born and cannot leave it, and in any comparison between the United States and Canada a large allowance should be made for this condition which takes off nearly one-tenth from the active population, not producing wealth in proportion to their numbers nor consuming imports or manufacturing in such proportion because for the most part they are in a state of great poverty and live principally upon the products raised around their own little cabins. It would be impossible to go into that calculation now, but I merely suggest it as being one of the factors in making comparison between the two countries. I will now mention a few instances in which I think I can show that Canada will compare favorably with the United States in some of the larger items which go to make up the trade prosperity position and wealth of a country. The net imports of the United States in 1881, which is the last return we have, were \$729,000,000. Ours for that year were \$112,648,000.

In order to arrive at the exact proportion between Canada and the United States, as compared with population, ours should be multiplied by ten, and that would require that the United States should have imported \$1,112,648,000, instead of \$729,000,000. The exports show the same disproportion to population. The exports of the United States for the year 1881, amounted to \$848,000,000; ours amounted to \$102,000,000. In order to make the exports of the United States equal to the exports of Canada, in proportion to population, they should have exported \$1,020,000,000. Yet there are gentlemen constantly complaining that under the present policy our exports are not satisfactory. They are certainly much larger than those of the United States in proportion to population—larger by nearly 25 per cent. In 1881 the debt of the United States proper was \$1,785,000,000; ours was \$155,900,000; in the same proportion ours should have been \$178,000,000.—therefore our debt is less by 15 per cent, but it does not state the whole case. The debts of the States and cities and towns I think, were about eight hundred millions. This will add fifty per cent to the public indebtedness of the United States. There is no such proportionate debt existing in Canada as the provinces are not indebted to any large amount, and the debts of cities and municipalities are proportionately very small. These should be all considered in making such a comparison as I have suggested. Now, referring to the immigration into the United States: The last returns that are given are for the year 1881, and state the number at 661,000. If they are calculated, as in some cases we know they have been, where the Custom House officer, or an officer appointed to collect such statistics, counted all the people that came over by ferry boat between Sarnia and Port Huron, we may take this return of 661,000 with a considerable grain of allowance. But we will assume that they are correct; it is said that our immigration this year will reach 113,000, and if so, in order to shew the same proportion, immigration into the United States should have been 1,130,000 instead of 660,000, which is represented here. Now we claim that we have not only