

been brought into the country, and while the imports are increasing over other years, still owing to the successful working of the National Policy, as I believe and feel confident, in proportion to the exports, the imports are decreasing, and I think that this is a most healthy and promising sign; and I also consider that it augurs well for the condition of the country. Reference has been made to other matters in connection with the financial questions which concern this country; but with these I shall not deal. Suffice it to say that the intimation which is made in the Speech from the Throne, in regard to the extraordinary surplus, in regard to the decrease in the debt and to the saving in interest on it, relates to facts which must bring pleasure to all minds alike. I feel confident, Mr. Speaker, before I close my remarks, I would like, while we stand in admiration of the splendor and magnitude of all these industries which exist in the west; while we stand and are awe-struck by the successful working of every matter connected with the North-West, I would like this House to understand that we who come from the Provinces down by the sea, have no reason to feel ashamed, through our consciousness, that in this grand march we have not been laggard. We can show results which will compare favorably with all the figures which I have given to-day connected with older Canada and the North-West; and we can show that that large and important industry of the country which swells our mercantile marine, is ever growing, is ever improving; and we can show, that in regard to the fisheries, the most astounding and gratifying increase is exhibited in the value of the sales during the past year, this increase amounting to no less than \$1,250,000 over the preceding year, viz.: the total value of the sales for the year 1882 exceeded the total value of the sales of fish for New Brunswick and Nova Scotia—which are the provinces to which I am referring—exceeded the total value of the sales for the year 1881 by over \$1,250,000. Now, Mr. Speaker, not only with regard to this industry of Canada can I turn with pride, but also to one which is looked upon perhaps with more interest in the country from which I have the honor to come—I am alluding, with a great deal of satisfaction, to the great benefits which the National Policy has conferred on the coal trade, which has exhibited a most extraordinary development. The out-put of coal is such as we never anticipated in so short a time; indeed, this was never anticipated by the men who were most interested in it. It was never anticipated by the men who were directly interested in this trade—because they find themselves at the present day unable to supply the tremendous increase in the demand for coal with the machinery which they have, and which they have provided since the National Policy conferred protection on that industry. Coming nearer to this part of the Dominion of Canada, in connection with this question, I may mention to the House a fact that was alluded to by the Chairman of the Harbor Commission of Montreal a few days ago—the increase in the amount of coal which has been brought from the Lower Provinces into and as far as Montreal in this Dominion during the last two years, has reached 100,000 tons. This is a fact which, I am sure, is very gratifying to the people of the Province, who recognize the fact that their success is linked with the success of this great industry. Moreover, while this was the case in regard to the out-put of coal, no less than \$1,250,000, were paid out to the miners employed in that industry; and not only was this the case, but we find that the increase in the out-put of coal is one-half more than it was in the year 1879. Now, Mr. Speaker, it is indeed gratifying, in connection with any part of the country, when dealing with figures, to speak of millions; but it is peculiarly gratifying to myself, when speaking of the success that enables me to use these large

figures, that I can come to my own Province and do the same thing. Now, not only can I show those two tests of the success of the National Policy in the Maritime Provinces, but I am happy to see that through the statistics connected with the Intercolonial Railway itself, we are offered a new opportunity of judging of the progress which the people down by the sea are making; for we find that whereas in the year 1878, 2,000 odd tons of sugar passed over the Intercolonial, during the year 1882, 29,000 odd tons passed over that road. We find, also, that owing to the enterprise of the country and the fostering protection given to the article of iron, whereas 19,000 odd tons of iron and steel passed over the Intercolonial in 1878, 35,000 odd tons of them passed over it in 1882; and when we are doubling our trade in that way the whole country being alive not only with these but with other active enterprises, and when arrangements are being made to increase them all, surely we can join hands with our compatriots in the West and congratulate each other on the success which we know we have attained. I have alluded to the fact that the increased out-put of coal is such as could not have been anticipated by those most cognizant of the working of that industry. I do this for the reason that preparations are now being made in the Province of Nova Scotia by all these mining companies not only for putting down new shafts, but for putting in new and improved machinery and providing better shipping facilities in order to meet the anticipated increase in the demand next year; so that in every branch of trade it appears to me to be beyond question that a very great and very rapid improvement has taken place. In regard to the position which this country has commanded abroad we can turn with pleasure to events which are transpiring on the other side of the Atlantic. We have the pleasure of knowing that the people who are the most actively engaged in promoting emigration from Great Britain—and notably the Tuke Emigration Fund Committee—have not only sent out Commissioners to the United States to enquire into the condition and prospects of that country as a field of immigration, but they have sent them also to this country, and I find that the result of the comparison they made between the United States and Canada is one which need be in no wise disagreeable to the people of this country. We find that the Commissioners, the Rev. Father Nugent and Mr. Hodgkin, reported favorably upon Canada, and said that “there were great opportunities for emigration especially in Canada.” We find, also, that the English correspondent of the *Globe* refers with pleasure to, and indeed compliments the hon. Minister of Agriculture upon the system of immigration which he has perfected in the continental countries, “by which,” he says, “many special facilities and advantages will be afforded.” This is testimony which we accept with pleasure, and it corroborates the anticipations which have been formed that the results of the present immigration policy for the ensuing year will be such that we can form no adequate idea of them at the present time. When I contemplate the condition of the country at the present moment, when I see what has been accomplished within those fifteen years to which I have alluded, I feel no doubt in reference to the future of the Dominion of Canada. I believe that, along with this material progress, there is now being adopted from one end of Canada to the other an improvement in the tone of the men who are attempting to control the destinies of this country. I believe that the two great parties that represent the divisions of political thought in this country are now bound to recognize that they are not occupying the small sphere which they occupied a few years ago, and that as the country advances in material prosperity there should be a corresponding advancement and improvement in the tone of political discussion. I believe that the growth of the country will bring about such a change in the political tone of its public men as will be