

from the people of Canada a larger revenue than we are doing, because monopoly divides the taxation with the government. I say, hon. gentlemen, that the people of Canada can contribute a larger revenue a great deal than they are doing to-day, but it is impossible to increase that revenue beyond the twenty million dollars that we are contributing to-day under the customs taxation which, as I said before, is stagnant and has been stagnant for a great number of years and is only stimulated by borrowing. It is possible for the people of Canada to pay a great deal more revenue than that if it was only levied in the proper way, if it was only levied in the same way Great Britain levies her taxes. She releases the necessities of labour and taxes profits. Hers is the most redundant revenue in the world. The Government of Great Britain has spent enormously on its navy without imposing one additional penny of taxation upon the people. She has maintained her position, she has increased her trade, she has perpetually and constantly increased her revenue year after year. Every year it is greater than it was before. This last year her trade has increased and is the largest ever known in the history of the country. This year her revenue has got a surplus of eight or ten million dollars, the largest ever known in the history of the country. That is due to the method in which she exacts the revenue for governmental purposes, while we divide the revenue which should go for the support of the country, with the monopolists and protected classes that enjoy a very large portion of the means that should be at the disposal of the government. The people have to contribute the taxation and these people take half of it. Now when we are prepared to see things in a different light, which I think before long there is no doubt the people of Canada will come to see, that the business of the government is a different business from the business of an individual, and that the government has got to take care of its revenues, that it has not to manage for the customers who come here for legislation, but it has to manage its affairs for the stock holders, who are the people of Canada ; and when they come to carry out their business upon that basis and upon these relations, then hon. gentlemen will see that the revenue of Canada, instead of being stagnant and remaining as it is to-day, will show

a redundancy that is the outcome of prosperity. It is in order to reply to the leader, the great financier, Chancellor of the Exchequer in England that it is not the spirit of Canada that prevents her from giving material resources to strengthen Great Britain, to stand at her back in the fight that she is making with the rest of the world, but it is the weakness of the revenue that prevents us showing that in any appreciable or material manner. To be sure the government did try to show a disposition, and they did show a spirit by reducing the tariff in favour of Great Britain to the extent of 25 per cent, which comes into force on the 1st July next. That is only a concession of trade and not a source of revenue. The carrying out of that is simply the carrying out of the idea of the hon. Minister of Marine when he made a motion in the House of Commons some years ago that the taxation levied against Great Britain was large compared with that of the United States, and this reduction is no reduction so far as protection is concerned ; it is merely an attempt to equalize the protective duties that are still imposed and make them even with those of the United States, which it was always contended were of an unequal character, so that it is not regarded in Great Britain as a very great concession, it is not regarded as of any particular material value, as business men in England assembled together said they would prefer a great deal to see an insolvency act passed to protect the commercial interests of the merchants who have customers in Canada than have this 25 per cent reduction in the tariff. That is only an evidence of the manner in which they look upon it, but so far as the spirit that has been shown by the people of Canada in making that reduction, it is accepted as an evidence of good spirit and a hope that something better will follow, and I was really in hopes that something better would follow as announced in the Speech from the Throne. Well, hon. gentlemen, as the speech says here it was due :

To the conduct of Canada in materially reducing the rate of duty upon goods imported from the United Kingdom into the Dominion.

As I say, that is an evidence of good will, and it is an evidence of good spirit ; but beyond that it has not shown itself to be of any material value so far as increasing the power of the people of Great Britain to export their goods to Canada is concerned. It