

brought to an end and both parties were desirous of grappling with the problems arising out of commercial relations.*

MR. HINCKS.

In December, 1850, Mr. Hincks, then Inspector General for Canada, visited Washington, and subsequently addressed the following letter to the Chairman of the Committee on Commerce, in the House of Representatives :—

“ NATIONAL HOTEL,

“ WASHINGTON, 6th January, 1851.

“ SIR,—I avail myself of your kind permission to state the grounds
 “ on which the passage of the Bill, which has been repeatedly brought
 “ under the consideration of Congress, for establishing reciprocal free
 “ trade in certain articles, the natural products of the United States and
 “ Canada, is urged by the latter. To bring the subject fairly under con-
 “ sideration, I must advert to the changes which have taken place, within
 “ the last few years, to the colonial policy of Great Britain. The old
 “ policy of the mother country was to compel the colonies, by means of
 “ heavy differential duties, to purchase their supplies exclusively from
 “ her. The trade was carried on in British bottoms, and the products of
 “ the colonies were admitted into the markets of the mother country on
 “ more advantageous terms than those of foreign nations. While such
 “ was the commercial policy of Great Britain, the political affairs of the
 “ colonies were materially influenced by the Imperial Government, the
 “ local Parliament having no practical control over the administration of
 “ affairs. About the same period, when, owing to the change in the
 “ commercial policy of Great Britain, it became necessary to remove all
 “ restrictions on the colonial trade, a most important concession was
 “ made to the Northern American Provinces, by the introduction of a
 “ system of government, under which the local parliaments obtained an
 “ effective control over their governments. The consequence of the
 “ withdrawal of the protection formerly enjoyed by the colonies has
 “ been that they have been left to buy and sell in the markets of the
 “ world, just as the United States or any other foreign nation. Under

* The protection afforded the mariner on our coasts at the time is seen in the following :—

LIGHTHOUSES IN 1850.

PROVINCE OF CANADA.

In Gulf and River St. Lawrence, below Quebec.....	10
Above Quebec and below Lake Ontario.....	22
In Lake Ontario.....	12
In Lake Erie.....	12
In River Detroit.....	1
In Lakes St. Clair and Huron.....	2

Total in Province of Canada..... 59

There are now (1886) 325 Lights in Ontario and Quebec.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Within the Gulf of St. Lawrence.....	1
Within the Bay of Fundy.....	9

Now (1886) there are 104 Lights.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Ocean line and Gulf.....	15
Within the Bay of Fundy.....	4
Now (1886) 151 Lights.	
Newfoundland.....	5
Prince Edward Island.....	1
Now (1886) 47 Lights.	

Total..... 94

There are now (1886) 625 Lighthouses, 534 Light Stations, 23 Fog Whistles and 16 automatic Fog Horns in the Dominion.