

Mr. CLANCY. Before the hon. gentleman proceeds further will he tell this House whether he grows corn or buys it.

Mr. McMILLAN. I sell a portion of my oats and buy corn, and have done so for many years. I cannot ripen corn, but I raise a large quantity and use it in silos. I have done exactly what I have advised other farmers to do. I have heard a great deal about injury being done by free trade to England. I never heard such a slander as was uttered by a prominent member of the Conservative party with respect to England, I mean the hon. member for Pictou. Here is what the hon. member for Pictou (Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper) said :

What is the whole policy of the motherland to-day? Driven from the civilized markets of the world ; steadily and every year finding their output to these markets decreasing, they spend millions on their navy and millions on their army to force their wares, and their goods, and their merchandise into the uncivilized markets of the world, which they are endeavouring to occupy, to settle and to control, driven there by the deadly effect upon them of the tremendous competition coming from the protected nations in the rest of the world.

Referring to the present Minister of Marine, he says :

The hon. gentleman himself laughs at the idea that Great Britain is the best market for most of our products.

Sir that is a slander perpetrated on England. There is not one scintilla of truth in the whole statement. England has not been driven from the civilized nations of the earth, but on the contrary her trade is daily increasing. In 1886 the total imports of Great Britain amounted to £350,000,000 sterling, and her total exports amounted to £269,000,000 sterling, or a total of £619,000,000 sterling. In 1895 Englands imports rose to £418,000,000 sterling and her exports to £286,000,000 sterling, making a total trade of £703,000,000 sterling. This was notwithstanding the reduction in values and the severe commercial depression that has been felt in all civilized countries. I saw a statement in the "Citizen" this morning, that the trade of Great Britain has risen from £703,000,000 sterling to £738,000,000 sterling this year. That shows that England is still leading the van among the nations of the earth, and that she is still holding her own. She is holding her own even with Germany, and although she may not be increasing her trade in the same percentage, yet she is increasing it by larger amounts than Germany. These gentlemen opposite are the men who talk about loyalty to the British Empire, and who taunt gentlemen on this side with being disloyal. Was there ever a more disloyal sentiment uttered on the floor of Parliament, than that uttered by the hon. member for Pictou (Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper) with respect to the British Empire. I see

Mr. McMILLAN.

the hon. gentleman is laughing, but he laughs at the wrong side of his mouth sometimes. Those gentlemen opposite have attempted to delude the people of this country. They told the farmers that they paid no taxes, but the farmers knew to the contrary. The late Finance Minister stated in North Ontario during an election campaign, that all the butter bought at 20 cents per pound had been sold and all the money returned to the Treasury without the loss of one cent to the country. But that same gentleman had to answer me across the floor of the House afterwards that they only received 14·38 cents. No wonder that his party considered him an able Finance Minister, because it must have taken some sort of financing and ledgerdmain to make 20 cents a pound and expenses, out of 14·38 cents. That is the way the late Government tried to delude the people of this country. Long may the farmers bless the day when the hon. members who now occupy the treasury benches were returned to power. When the history of Canada is written, the tariff Bill of our noble leader, Hon. Wilfrid Laurier and his Finance Minister (Mr. Fielding), and of Sir Richard Cartwright, and of Mr. Paterson, the Controller of Customs, and of all the gentlemen who assisted them will go down to posterity as the dawn of a brighter day in the history of Canada.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I may say, that the salt industry hardly receives justice in the tariff as it stands at the present time.

Mr. FOSTER. Ah, ah.

Mr. McMILLAN. You may say "Ah, ah." but you were the father of the present tariff on that industry, and you have got to father it, whatever it is. I may say that there has been more money lost in the salt industry in the county I represent, than was ever made. A large number of salt wells in that county were closed up on account of the depression of trade, and we all know that if a salt well is run for a few years, and if the plant is left unused for a short time, it rots more rapidly than if it were kept in operation. We have to complain of the large quantity of salt that comes into this country free of duty. Let me quote to you the number of pounds of salt that are imported free of duty :

From	Pounds.
Great Britain.....	163,579,132
Dutch West Indies.....	707,780
French West Indies.....	2,823,430
Italy	13,123,800
Spain	6,371,800
United States.....	5,349,120

Now, while that large amount is imported into Canada I think it is the duty of the Government to amend the tariff Bill. It may be of benefit to import from Great Britain as the salt is brought in ballast in the vessels, and it enables them to take