

We are called upon at this time, and have been ever since Confederation, to ask for a larger amount of money than we would have required under other circumstances, because we have spent, since Confederation, large sums in the improved navigation of the St. Lawrence, the construction of railways, the construction of the Intercolonial Railway, and now the Pacific Railway. It is quite true that the proposition I submit will impose on, and probably produce, something like \$50,000 from the imports of Great Britain. But our friends at home should bear in mind that we are engaged in a work in which they are deeply interested themselves. Every million dollars we spend for the improvement of our navigation, whether in building lighthouses, in the establishment of telegraph stations, in the deepening and enlarging of canals, or in the construction of railways, enables us to put the products of Great Britain into the Dominion, and into our great North-West, which we are going to people with millions, at a much lower rate than we otherwise could. The expenditure of this large sum will operate indirectly to the benefit of the manufacturing industries of Great Britain; it would be utterly impracticable to do it were we not spending that large sum, thus indirectly benefitting the manufacturing industries of Great Britain. In opening up that great North-West, we expect to provide a comfortable home for the surplus population of Great Britain. We will thus relieve Great Britain of its surplus population, and plant them where they will still be subjects of England, purchasing of her manufactures \$9.25 per head per annum, against \$2.50 if they removed to the United States and became aliens. Great Britain has a great interest in this work, and in the development of this great region. Will it be said that the increase of wealth and population resulting from the filling of our western territory with millions of settlers, will not be a source of strength to the mother land? We have only to point to the fact that a few months ago, when there was a possibility of trouble between the Mother Country and Russia, Canada was prepared to send 10,000 men, and back them by tens of thousands more, to fight for the old flag under

which we are proud to live. Instead of there being any feeling in England against us, although there are some Free-trade men who care not about the colonies, the heart of the people is with us. They know that this money is required for the development of our country, and for opening up new channels of trade between the Old World and the New, and to enable Canadians to compete with the manufacturers south of the line 45. The sympathies of the English people will be with us, instead of adverse, as has been desired by hon. gentlemen in Opposition. With reference to the United States, I was a member of the Government of New Brunswick when the unfortunate struggle between the North and South was at its height, and I then acted upon the principle, a principle I still hold to, that a Canadian statesman, who does not, in dealing with our American neighbours, duly consider their feelings, does not act in the interests of Canada; but he is not expected in any way to sacrifice the interests he is specially charged to protect. In the United States, the press differs in opinion with respect to this tariff. The Government, after refraining for twelve years from imposing duties on articles imported from the United States that were free under the Reciprocity Treaty, only now propose to reimpose them, though the United States Government restored the duty on our natural productions immediately on the abrogation of the Treaty. This proposition being accompanied with the declaration that we are prepared to meet them half way in the reduction or removal of duties, was calculated to prevent unkind criticism, and such has been the case. Goods imported from the United States will pay a larger share of the duties than goods from Great Britain. I have statements here that will bear out this assertion. The member for North Oxford (Mr. Oliver) observed that I stated that we expected to receive \$2,000,000 from the United States. What I said was that we expected to obtain this amount altogether, the larger portion from the goods imported from the United States. I did not enter into the question as to whether the producer or consumer would pay it.

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