

trade matters and I always shall." (Applause.)

CHATHAM THE NEXT PLACE OF MEETING

Mr. D. G. Smith, the new secretary, had in the meantime been quietly sitting at his desk. But a few remarks were now demanded from him. "I thank you," he said, "for the honor you have conferred upon me. I hope I shall be able to do as satisfactory work as has the late secretary. If I can make any improvement I shall try and do so. While I am on my feet I will take the opportunity of moving that the next annual meeting of the Maritime Board of Trade be held in Chatham, N.B."

Just at that moment, a telegram was handed to Mr. M. G. DeWolfe. It turned out to be from the Chatham Board of Trade, inviting the Maritime Board to hold its next convention in that town. There was a

not devolved upon someone else. However, he felt that it was his duty to introduce the subject when called upon to do so. "I regard," he continued, "this question as the most important that looms up before the Canadian people and of this Empire. However little we may now think of the question to-day, as truly as we live

IN THIS GREAT COUNTRY

of Canada, as truly as we have a great country in Australia, as truly as we have nearly one third of the world's territory, this question will force itself upon our attention until it is an accomplished fact."

He then referred to the free trade movement in England as led by Cobden, and the difficulties the latter contended with. At that time Great Britain had no rivals, except France, Spain and Portugal. He referred to the progress of Great Britain under free

Britain, but the material for the interchange of commodities between all nations."

The aggregate exports of the British colonies were, he said, about \$1,500,000,000 in round numbers as far as his memory served him. The imports were somewhat larger. Of

THAT ENORMOUS TRADE

only about 14 per cent. was with the Mother Country. It ought to be, he declared, 50 per cent. at least. By a simple preferential tariff, foreign countries would be prevented from taking this trade from her.

"How indifferently this matter may be treated to-night or in the near future," he continued, "as sure as we are a living people we shall yet awaken ourselves and help to wake up the Australian colonies and



Blomidon, on the Minas Basin.

laugh among the members at the coincidence.

Then Mr. W. M. Jarvis seconded Mr. Smith's resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The convention adjourned at 12.30 p.m. to meet again at 8 p.m.

In the afternoon, the delegates were taken by vehicles to "Look Out," as guests of the Kentville and Kings County Boards of Trade. Further particulars of this will be found elsewhere.

The evening session was opened shortly after 8 o'clock. There was a good attendance of members.

After routine, the first subject introduced was

PREFERENTIAL TRADE.

The subject was introduced by Mr. J. A. Chipman, Halifax. In doing so, he said he regretted exceedingly that the duty had

trade, and he'd that up to 1882 no country had made greater progress. Then came in the competition of the United States and of Germany, and, not only in foreign markets, but in the British market itself.

Canada in the years gone by only had a small population, and

COULD SCARCELY FEED HERSELF.

Now things are changed. We have a larger population, and, with our minerals, timber and food products, it is possible for us to supply the British Empire itself.

Referring again to the competition of Germany and the United States in the home, foreign and colonial market, he continued: "Are we to open our markets of the Empire to the competition of the world, while they shut us out with high tariffs and obnoxious bounty systems? I have shown that we have not only the material to supply Great

the West Indian Islands to the importance of this great question." (Applause.)

He then read the following resolution:

Resolved, that in the opinion of this convention mutual preferential trade within the British Empire would greatly tend to cement the unity of the Empire, vastly assist in developing the material resources of the several colonies and dependencies thereof, hold a restraining influence upon immigration, directing it from foreign to countries within the Empire, and conducing to a more equitable system of commercial intercourse between the Empire and the several nations of the world.

Before taking his seat, Mr. Chipman said. "We hear sometimes that Great Britain is afraid of a mutual preferential trade between herself and her colonies and dependencies on account of her large trade with foreign countries. I tell you, gentlemen, that before preferential trade within the Empire was in existence five years the United States and other foreign countries would, to use an Americanism, be hustling