

propose to quote long figures, because they are tiresome, but I want to place before the House and the country this one fact: We require the natural products of the United States just as the United States requires the natural products of Canada, and in the free exchange of these natural products lies the advantage of our common counties. I believe that such a policy will inure not merely to the economic advantage, but to the peace, harmony, and brotherhood which should be maintained among the nations of the world.

Mr. W. F. COCKSHUTT (Brantford): I am pleased in a way that this resolution has come before us at the present time. First of all, I want to deal with the point raised by my hon. friend from Shelburne and Queen's (Mr. Fielding) that it is not a want of confidence motion. I have had the privilege of sitting in this House under three governments, for a term of about 15 years, and in all that time I cannot recall a motion made under similar circumstances that has not been treated as a want of confidence motion by the government then in power. That includes a long term when my hon. friend from Shelburne and Queen's was Finance Minister in the Laurier Government. I repeat, I cannot recall a resolution of a similar nature moved as an amendment to a motion for Supply that has not been treated as a want of confidence motion by the Government of the day, and if the hon. gentleman knew of such a case he failed to mention it to-day.

Mr. FIELDING: My hon. friend is mistaken. I stated that there were two cases within my own knowledge. I cited the amendment moved by Mr. Blake, which Sir John Macdonald accepted. I did not suppose the experience of my own department would satisfy my hon. friend, but I thought he would be satisfied with the precedent I quoted, when Sir John Macdonald accepted the amendment moved by Mr. Blake.

Mr. COCKSHUTT: The hon. gentleman has made a statement, but he has not mentioned the dates or the nature of the resolution. I question very much if such a resolution has been moved since I have been in the House. I was not in the House when Sir John Macdonald was Prime Minister, and my statement was that I did not know of any such resolution since I came into the House, which was in 1904, that had not been treated as a want of confidence motion. I do not want to take any shelter under that, however. My main reason for voting against the resolution is not that it is a

[Mr. McMaster.]

want of confidence motion. It is because of want of confidence in the proposal, and in the hon. member for Shelburne and Queen's as a guide on this particular subject, that I shall vote against this resolution.

Mr. FIELDING: That is more logical.

Mr. COCKSHUTT: I have very great want of confidence in the resolution of my hon. friend as being a wise policy to introduce, and I hope to show a reason or two before I take my seat. Of all inopportune times that I can conceive of, none could be more inopportune than the present for bringing down such a resolution. What is the situation? There has come into power in the United States a strongly protectionist Government, which has been besieged to protect the United States farmers against the inroads of products not only from Canada but from South American countries. That Government, true to the trust that has been reposed in it as a protectionist Government, has announced that it proposes to proceed at once with the Fordney Bill and enact it as quickly as possible. The hon. member for Shelburne and Queen's says: Here is our chance; let us wire down to Washington that the House of Commons at Ottawa has passed a resolution to-night in favour of reciprocity, and then the sword that is suspended threateningly in mid-air and is about to descend upon imports from Canada will be stayed. The hon. member for Shelburne and Queen's, the hon. member for Red Deer (Mr. Clark) associated with my hon. friend from Brome (Mr. McMaster) as chief counsel, will send a wire down that this motion has passed, and that they will be down at Washington in a day or two to lay our proposal before the Washington Government. What a humiliating position for this House and country to be placed in! I can imagine nothing more humiliating. I can imagine no better way of bringing about that very thing which these hon. gentlemen are proposing to stay, than by adopting the course they would have us pursue. The very thing you want to keep away from is any act of that sort as being necessary for Canada. The Americans have always been noted as a people that took good care of Number 1. That has been their proclivity from away back, and there is no doubt that they intend to look after Number 1 on this question, in spite of any representations made by the hon. member for Shelburne and Queen's, the hon. member for Red Deer, or the hon. member for Brome. The Fordney Bill is a