

ables a Government to extend public works as they have been extended during the existence of the present Legislature.

Let us examine the other departments: take the Crown Land Department, for instance, and here we find the same rapid and steady increase under the control of the present Government. In 1860 the revenue from the Crown Lands was \$20,846, and it declined to \$15,004 in 1862, while the revenue from that source in 1865 was no less than \$43,136, being an increase over 1863 of \$28,033. These figures likewise indicate a corresponding increase in the population of the country, for many of the grants have been taken out by settlers.

Take another department of the public service—the Railway,—and we find the same results. In 1862 the receipts of the Railway were \$133,106, while in 1865 they amounted to the sum of \$183,969, being an increase of \$4,833, at the same time we have evidence of the good condition of the road, and the increasing confidence the people feel in travelling on it.

The revenue, which gives the sinews of war to a government and a legislature, is, in this Province, in a most gratifying state, as will be shown by the following items, viz., in 1860 the whole revenue collected amounted to the sum of \$757,447, and in 1862, under a tariff of 12½ per cent., being an increase of 2½ per cent. ad valorem duty, the sum was only \$916,853, while in 1865 under a 10 per cent. tariff, the revenue amounted to \$1,200,571, being an increase of \$441,124, the increase being more than half of the entire revenue for 1860.

The coal mines, too, exhibit the same prosperous condition, for, in 1862, the amount shipped in from this Province was only 392,631 tons, while, in 1865, the number of tons was 651,254, being an increase of 258,625 tons. This branch of trade is one of the most important in connection with the country, and its value can be estimated by a glance at the Island of Cape Breton abounding in seams of coal.

The gold mines are not an exception, for we find that, in 1862, there were only 7,110 oz. raised, while, in 1865, the amount was 21,876, being an increase of 17,766 oz.

Gold mining has now become a settled branch of business in this Province, and as it will afford an export to meet the demands made upon us for the importation of necessary articles of consumption from foreign countries, too much attention cannot be given to the encouragement of this branch of our industry.

I have thus enumerated many of the important industrial pursuits of Nova Scotia, and produced figures to show her prosperous state. I will not lengthen my present remarks further than to allude to one or two other topics mentioned in the speech.

Mention is made of the attempts by our Government to negotiate for the renewal of the Reciprocity Treaty, a treaty by which we were enabled to conduct, very beneficially for both countries, a large trade with the United States, but as that country seems disposed to erect a Chinese wall about her borders, and thus break off a most beneficial trade, we must find new channels for the exchange of our productions, and if by the present negotiations we may be enabled to open new trade relations with the West Indies and the North American Provinces, the information obtained and the practical les-

sons learned from the ten years trade carried on under the treaty, I trust will not be lost to the sagacious people of Nova Scotia in any such new channels we may open up.

It is true we require the flour and pork of the United States, and some other important articles, but let us encourage home productions; and, as far as manufactures are concerned, I do not see why we cannot compete with that country in many of the more common articles in use.

Now, in the article of boots and shoes, we are manufacturing our own supply to a large extent, as the prosperous factories at Annapolis, Wolfville, Hants, Colchester, Pictou, and Halifax testify, and if we can successfully compete with them in this respect, and in the manufacture of axes, which the two factories of Liverpool and Cornwallis have done in driving the American axes from our market, we can do it in other articles of a similar kind.

Another very gratifying feature of his Excellency's speech, especially to the members of Hants, Kings, Annapolis, Colchester and Cumberland, is, the reference to the fact that contracts and arrangements are already entered into for the building of lines of Railway, agreeably to the legislation of the past session, and I think if there is any one thing which should inspire confidence in the Government, it is the earnest desire shown to construct and extend for the people, East, West, and North, the existing lines of Railway, and I believe the mass of the people will receive this announcement as evincing the determination of the Government to advance their interests.

Nothing in my opinion has such a favorable tendency to develop and bring to the notice of the people the various resources of a country as well arranged and managed Exhibitions, and while a young country like Nova Scotia has not the wealth, or facility for collecting and exhibiting her resources, we can, in connection with exhibitions, in older and more favored countries, exhibit our products, and thus show our capabilities.

The exhibitions of London and Dublin have done much for us in this respect, but I conceive that too much pains and trouble or even expense cannot be appropriated better than in this respect.

The proposed Exhibition at Paris, in the spring of 1867, affords a favorable opportunity for a further display of our coal, gold, iron, and other minerals, as well as of our agricultural productions, and I am glad to find that His Excellency has been pleased to bring it to the notice of the Legislature, and I hope that every necessary arrangement will be made, on a suitable scale, to secure a creditable exhibition of our productions, so that we will be enabled to win as many medals as we have received at the Exhibitions of London and Dublin and more recently, (having taken the very highest prize at the recent Exhibition of the London Horticultural Society, viz., a Gold Medal for the best collection of Fruit and Vegetables from any of Her Majesty's Colonies.) With these remarks, sir, I beg leave to move the following Reply to His Excellency's Address:

ANSWER TO ADDRESS.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

We thank your Excellency for the Speech with which you have been pleased to open the present Session, and rejoice that in the choice of a Lieutenant