

at the end of the non-protective period. I can point to the fact that the consumers of the United States have for the last seventeen years paid in duties \$2,429,000,000, and I may also point to the fact that these same consumers have, in addition to this enormous sum, paid in the enhanced cost of domestic production, in profits, upon duties and upon this enhanced cost, more than three times as much more. I may also point out that the producers of the United States, during the last seventeen years, while paying this enormous sum of over eight billion dollars, have actually received hundreds of millions less for their agricultural productions than they would have done but for this condition of things; that, while they have paid enormous exactions to the manufacturers, the result of that system has been to give them very much less for their production, because the system did not redeem its promise, and give them a home market. During all this time they were paying these enormous duties, they were sending the surplus of their production to England, and England, as the natural customer, being impoverished by that very system that kept us out of her market, and being unable to pay the prices she would otherwise have been able to pay, the United States have been during all these years, as was said by Professor Sumner of Yale College, in the condition of Issachar,—“A strong ass couching down between two burdens,”—the burden on the one hand of enormous duties, and the burden on the other hand of diminished receipts. Well, Sir, here we have opened for our inspection a period of history. Let us profit by its teaching; let us not be regardless of its lessons. The next paragraph of the Speech, Sir, refers to a matter of the utmost interest to a large portion of the people of this country, for the French-speaking population of Canada, although subjects of the British Crown, and loyal subjects, living in the enjoyment of civil and religious liberty, still must necessarily take a deep interest in all that pertains to the land from which they derive their origin, and must naturally desire that Canada, in the approaching Exhibition to be held in the most beautiful

capital of Europe, should make a creditable exhibition. We have shipped a portion of the exhibits of the Exposition at Paris upon one of our own steamers. She arrived at Havre and proceeded up the Seine as far as Rouen, seventy miles in a north-west direction from Paris. The reception with which the officers of that vessel met was little short of an ovation. The Customs duties and tonnage dues were remitted. The captain received an address and was presented with a medal, and the inhabitants of the towns along the river Seine were very much interested in knowing from whence came this new flag. We trust, Sir, with the blessings of Providence, and under wise legislation, to make that flag in a few years well known in all the commercial ports of the world, and upon the distant seas. His Royal Highness, the Chairman of the British Commissioners, inquired of the Canadian Government whether they desired to erect a memorial trophy. That inquiry, Sir, was taken by this Government in the light of a command, and it was determined to erect one. The plans were submitted to the British Commissioners; those plans have been approved; the materials for that trophy have been shipped, or are about being shipped, and its erection, I have no doubt, will be one creditable to Canada. Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt that the members of this House, and the country at large, may anticipate highly favourable results from the participation of Canada in the Exhibition at Paris. The Speech makes allusion to that event which thrilled the sympathies of Canada in June last, when the citizens of the stricken city of Saint John saw the midnight heavens illuminated with unwonted splendour by the light of a great conflagration, which laid in ashes that beautiful city, and made thousands of citizens homeless and destitute. No doubt the measures taken by the Government for the relief of the inhabitants of that city will meet with the cordial approval of the members of this House. Reference is made also in the Speech to the extinguishment of the Indian title through a large portion of the North-West Territory. The settlement of that country and the extinguish-