

was twenty years ago. Now, Sir, this proves to my mind that, so far as the trade of these countries is concerned, the efforts of the Government have been futile. There is a group of islands lying to the south of us, and a few years ago I heard the eloquent Finance Minister of this country say that there was a likelihood of a great trade being established between Canada and these West India islands. Indeed, the hon. gentleman was sent there about two years ago at the expense of the Government to confer with the people of those islands in order to establish better trade relations between them and the people of Canada. He went there, and, as a result of his visit, or the result of something else, our trade has been falling off instead of increasing, with the West India Islands. One of the reasons of that decline is that he would not give them the same favours in the Canadian market as the United States did in their market. They said they could not continue to buy from us when we would not allow their products into our markets on as favourable terms as the United States allowed their products into their markets. Now, let us see what our trade has been with the West Indies. In 1873, long before the National Policy had any existence, our exports to those islands were \$3,989,000. In 1883, ten years afterwards, and five years after the National Policy was introduced, trade had fallen off to \$3,125,000. In 1893, still under the National Policy, and notwithstanding all the efforts that have been made to promote that trade, including the establishment of two lines of steamers running between Halifax and the West Indies, our exports had declined to \$3,146,000; this great reduction taking place notwithstanding the facilities, and notwithstanding the expenditure which the Government of this country had undertaken to establish those facilities. Now, I do not think there is any cause for satisfaction in these facts. Satisfaction has been expressed in the Address from the Throne in regard to the extension of our trade. Sir, do you see any reason for satisfaction in these facts? Do better markets and better prices prevail for those to whom better markets and better prices have been promised? Sir, I wish now to refer to another country, a country at the antipodes to our own, the Australian Colonies. It has been maintained by the Minister of Finance for the last few years that a very large trade could be established with that country in many articles that we produced; and last year the Minister of Trade and Commerce was sent by this Government on a visit to Australia, and they paid all his expenses, to ascertain if there was room for the products of Canada, and if a trade could not be profitably established. After making a full investigation, he came back, and a few weeks ago he addressed a meeting of the Manufacturers' Association in Toronto; and if he is properly reported in the newspapers, he used these words:

Mr. MACDONALD (Huron).

Look at what the Massey-Harris Company has accomplished in the last five years. I have under my hand now figures of their operations during the last year. Five years ago, when they first sent their agent into Australia to sell reapers and mowers, they were laughed at and told to take them back to Canada. "Where is Canada?" We know nothing of Canada. We are dealing with the United States; their goods are good enough for us in that line, and we don't see why we should buy from you.

Well, certainly that shows a great deal of ignorance on the part of the people of Australia. I suppose the hon. Minister of Trade and Commerce took a geography with him in order to point out on the map of the world where Canada was. Do you suppose that the people of Australia were as ignorant of Canadian industries and Canadian products as he represents them in that portion of his speech? Is it not wonderful that five years ago, when the Massey-Harris Company went there and founded this trade, the people of Australia were so ignorant of Canada that they took from this country more than double the value of the products that they take to-day, or, to be accurate, 56 per cent more? Does he mean to tell me that the people of Australia were so ignorant of the products of Canada and of our industries that twenty years ago they took more of our products than we sent them last year, notwithstanding the increased facilities for trade which have since been established? Now, figures, it is said, do not lie, and in order to establish my position, I will give you the figures of our trade with Australia. In 1889, the very year that the Minister of Trade and Commerce said that the people of Australia were so ignorant of Canada that they asked where she was, we sent \$661,000 worth of Canadian products into the Australian Colonies. Surely, they were not ignorant of Canada when they took so much from us. One year after that they were getting more ignorant, for they only took \$471,000. In 1891, still forgetting where Canada was, they only took \$589,000; and still forgetting the position she occupied on the map of the world, in 1892, they took \$437,000. Last year, when the Minister of Trade and Commerce was there, they had almost forgotten Canada and only took \$289,000 worth of our products. Is that a satisfactory showing for the exports of the products of this country to Australia? I cannot agree with those hon. gentlemen who think so. Now, I have a few more words to say in regard to the statements made by the Minister of Trade and Commerce before the Manufacturers' Association in Toronto. He asked those manufacturers why they did not send a larger amount of their product into Australia, and he is reported as saying:

In 1892 the United States sent to Australia over \$11,000,000 worth of goods and imported over \$8,500,000 worth. What were the principal goods they sent in which we can compete? I find that they were in agricultural implements, breadstuffs,