

taken the list of the exports actually as they are, that is to say, the exports which are the produce of Canada, because you must understand that in the figures given to us in the Trade and Navigation Returns, a large amount of foreign trade is included, that is to say, trade coming from the United States and passing through Canada. In 1892 that amounted to \$13,000,000 out of the exports of the country. The actual exports of the country which are the products of Canadian labour, as taken from the Trade and Navigation Returns, is \$95,684,000, and the exports of the previous year were \$85,000,000, so that there has been an increase of exports which are the product of the industry and the labour of the people of Canada to the extent of \$10,000,000, that is the increase for one year. Now, of that increase in the Maritime Provinces, there has been absolutely no increase in the exports at all. There has been a decrease in the exports from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, as I say.

Hon. Mr. KAULBACH—In values or in quantities?

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—In the values. Of course it is only the values that are given to us. If you take the Maritime Provinces together you will find that there is an actual decrease of \$200,000.

Hon. Mr. POWER—The hon. gentleman's statement is correct as to the aggregate of the lower provinces, but not as to Nova Scotia individually.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—I was speaking of the Maritime Provinces as a whole. I say there is a decrease in New Brunswick which is balanced by an increase in Nova Scotia. There is an actual decrease in the Maritime Provinces taking Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island together, of \$200,000. Now what is the reason that there is that reduction in the exporting power of the Maritime Provinces? Because the labour has left the country, because there is not the labour there to produce. You cannot have exports unless you have got labour to produce the articles that will enrich the country through their exportation. The census returns have shown us that there has been an absolute standstill in the population of New Brunswick and there has been a very slight in-

crease in the Province of Nova Scotia and a standstill in the Province of Prince Edward Island. That is what the census returns show us and therefore, if the population is at a standstill you must expect the exporting power, notwithstanding the varied resources at their disposal, in the Maritime Provinces or the Dominion of Canada, to stand still to the extent that the population itself stands still, because it is perfectly evident to everyone that without labour it is impossible to produce in a country like Canada or any other country in order to increase the exports or to increase the wealth of the people. With regard to the 10 millions of exports shown here in the Trade returns—where does that 10 millions come from? As the hon. leader of the House to-day has told us, \$650,000 of that is from an entirely new industry developed in our northern regions—the nickel regions. This 10 millions of an increase has almost altogether gone through the port of Montreal which shows that the Canadian Pacific Railway has been bringing down from the new districts developed north of Lake Superior, in Algoma and from our Great Western Prairies and pouring the trade of those new districts out through the port of Montreal. That this great increase of export cannot be attributed to the increase of the prosperity of the great mass of the population of Canada, nor to the increased industry of the Province of Ontario or Quebec, or as I have shown of the Maritime Provinces. Then again, there is another feature with regard to our exports that is worth considering, and it is absolutely necessary to consider, and that is the value of our imports in their proportion to our exports. Our importing power is our purchasing power. The value that we get for our exports or the economy with which they are produced is a measure of our ability to import, and the purchasing power of the people should be shown through our imports. Great Britain imports very nearly double what she exports. Why? Because her wealth is so great she is able to purchase those imports—those articles that come into the country in consequence of her wealth. We, in Canada, in 1871, 1872, and 1873 imported 32 millions of dollars, 46 millions of dollars and 54 millions of dollars worth more than we exported, or an excess of imports over exports of about 75 per cent; in 1871 we imported 32 millions of dollars more than we exported, and in 1873, 54 millions of dollars more than