

on which, be it remembered, a duty of \$206,000,000 was collected. Canada for the same year has a total trade of \$319,500,000; so that Canada with a population of about 5,300,000 in 1899, as against the United States, with a population of 73,500,000 by estimation in the same period, has a total trade of \$57.73 per head, as against a total trade for the United States of \$26.16—(loud cheers)—the total volume of our trade being thus somewhat more than double the total volume of trade in the United States. (Applause.) In the matter of exports Canada exports \$25 worth of goods for every man, woman and child in the country, as against \$16.70 per head in the United States. (Renewed applause.) In this connection I may observe that it is worth while noticing that the dutiable goods imported into the United States in 1898 amounted to \$396,844,966, and the percentage of duty levied on those goods was 52. The percentage of goods imported into Canada amounts to a little over 28 per cent., very little more than one-half of the percentage imposed in the United States. That bears on a question which has been brought forward, not infrequently, namely, the allegation that the present tariff is a highly protective tariff. There is an easy method of distinguishing between a high revenue and a high protective tariff. Ours is a high revenue tariff, it is true. But there never was a protective tariff under which the imports increased as fast as those of Canada have done in a single year. Look at the American tariff and you will find that after the passage of the Dingley bill American imports fell from \$750,000,000 to under \$700,000,000. Remember this, too, that in imposing the tariff it is quite possible for you, under a high revenue tariff, to impose a higher duty on American goods without prohibiting importation that you can impose on British goods. (Applause.) American imports will bear as a revenue tax a higher tariff than British goods will bear, for reasons apparent to all, and if there was no other good reason, and none other is wanted, for the preference which we have extended to the mother country, that should be sufficient. (Loud applause.) I may add that it is a great mistake to suppose that the reduction of taxes which has taken place in our preferential tariff is confined to the goods imported from England. Bear this in mind, that you compel the American manufacturer to reduce his prices to you in proportion. It may be true, and it is true, that the volume of our trade with the United States has not greatly diminished, but the volume of American profits has greatly diminished, and in such case the Canadian consumer very largely benefits. (Applause.)