

has now turned up. I might as well also confess here to a constitutional weakness, and that is, that I dearly love a fight,—not fisticuffs exactly, but knocking heads together. When I see a head—especially an intellectual head like that owned by our friend—I like to “hit it.” I propose to knock heads with friend Corneil, and see if we can't make fire enough fly to light up the question between us.

Now, in all seriousness, I beg to assure my respected friend, and all others concerned, that I shall not “drag in” or discuss “party politics” in the C.B.J. till the show is all over, or indeed afterwards. I feel a contempt for party politics, which it would be useless to try to conceal. Nor will I admit that I was discussing politics in the journal when I was explaining to the exhibitors about the duty on honey. I was doing what I conceived to be clearly within the line of my duty as manager of that department. The question in political economy as to who pays the duty on goods here or there, however much it may be bandied about by this party or that, belongs of right to neither of them; and I am not aware that any party or anybody has a patent on it either for public or private discussion.

Mr. Corneil tells me that if he sells his honey to the Chicago buyer who asked him for quotations, the buyer “will have to pay Canadian prices,” and the producer, contrary to my argument, “will not in this case pay the duty.” Let us see about that. He certainly does pay the duty in this very case; and if I cannot convince Mr. C. of that fact before I get through, the head I have to hit at is not as good as I take it to be.

I never contended that the producer in all cases paid the duty, or lost the amount of the duty, which is the same thing. Nor is it necessary here to go into the question at length, showing when and why the duty comes out of the producer, and when and why it does not. It only devolves on me to show that in the case I mentioned, viz.: that of the exhibitors, it certainly does come out of the producers, and that, in

Mr. Corneil's case, it is no less certain that it does undoubtedly come out of him. He says that should he sell to the American buyer the latter will have to pay Canadian prices. That is true. I do not dispute that. But does not Mr. Corneil see—does not the reader see—that the Canadian price is just that much lower on account of the duty, and hence the Canadian producer loses that. Let us reason this thing out step by step, so that nobody with common sense and common honesty can fail to see it. If the American buyer could get honey as cheap at home as here, he would not think of coming here to buy, when he has to pay freight to get it there, and duty after he does get it there. The honey, after he does get it there, with all charges paid, must be at least worth in his market what he paid for it here plus the freight and duty. If it is not he is losing, but he is not doing business to lose, but to gain. We will suppose that the honey in his market is worth thirteen cents a pound. He cannot buy it for less, and can sell it readily for that. He finds that he can buy that quality and kind of honey in Canada for say ten cents per pound. He counts the cost. He calculates, he finds that he will have to pay at least a cent and a half duty (it is actually a little over that) per pound, and that the freight will be, say, a half a cent per pound. This will be two cents per pound to be added to the original price he paid to the producer, viz., ten cents, making the cost to him, when he gets it there, twelve cents per pound. His market is thirteen, and he is willing to do business for one cent per pound profit. He accordingly comes to Canada to buy of A., B. and Mr. C. The latter asks him what that honey fetches in his market. He replies thirteen cents per pound. Well, then, you are not offering me enough when you offer me ten cents per pound. I am offering you all I can afford. I am only making one cent a pound on it. It costs me two cents a pound to get it there—a half cent a pound for freight, and a cent and a half for duty. Were it not for this duty I could pay you a cent and a half a pound more than I am now paying you. I could pay you eleven