

The Colonist.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6.

FROM AN AMERICAN STAND-POINT.

The citizens of the United States are watching the contest which is going on in Canada with considerable interest. They see what the issue is very clearly, and they do not hesitate to state it distinctly. The Argonaut, in a long article, in which it discusses the absorption of Canada by the United States, almost exhaustively, says:

"The main distinction between the two parties is that the Conservatives wish to take steps which will render the bonds connecting Canada with England indissoluble, while the Liberals believe in continental unity, and are anxious to form closer relations with the United States, even at the expense of a complete severance of the bonds connecting them with England. The battle cry of the Conservatives is 'British Connection,' and that of the Liberals is 'Continental Union.'"

"On March 5th, the elections will take place, and it will be known whether or not the Canadians have allowed their feelings of loyalty to prevail over their desire for an increase of prosperity. The struggle is being watched with intense interest in England, as it is felt that the triumph of the Liberals will be the first step towards the complete banishment of the British flag from this continent, and we should watch it with equal interest, as the success of the Liberals will help us greatly in carrying out the policy known as the 'Munroe doctrine.' The Conservatives know that a Liberal triumph will mean the immediate future of Canadian independence, and that independence will probably be followed by the political union of Canada with this country, and they are therefore making a fierce struggle for victory at the polls."

The work of the Conservative party in Canada would be much easier than it is if Canadian Liberals were as frank and as outspoken as the Argonaut. But the leading men among them are, like our own "Independent" candidates, fighting under false colors. They profess to be sincerely attached to the Mother Country, while they are doing their very best to recommend to the people a policy which is calculated and intended to alienate the people of Great Britain and to weaken the tie which binds Canada to the British Empire. Some of them are even doing worse than this. They and their emissaries have been in the United States urging public men there to take up the question of unrestricted reciprocity with Canada, representing to them that it is the first step, and a long step, towards transforming what is now the Dominion of Canada into a "tier of Northern States." One of the chief plotters has just been convicted of what an American would regard as the almost unimaginable treachery of showing United States public men the weak points at which Canada may be attacked and forced to sue for annexation. It is hard to contend with traitors of this kind. One of them has been found out, but there is no knowing how many more there are at his back, encouraging and supporting him. They may be, for aught we know to the contrary, an annexationist organization in the Dominion which has paid servants in all parts of the country, who, under the pretence of advocating unrestricted reciprocity, are endeavoring to entrap Canadians into political union with the United States. Such articles as that from which we have quoted greatly strengthen this suspicion. Why is it that the issue of the Canadian struggle is so well understood in the United States and so carefully concealed in Canada? Why is the direct and almost immediate result of unrestricted reciprocity trumpeted forth so violently in public on this side? How is it that the Liberals in Canada and the Americans in the States, reasoning from the same premises, appear to arrive at such very different conclusions. The difference is only in appearance, for the reasoning faculties of the Liberals of Canada do not differ in any respect from those of their neighbors. It is seen, too, that intelligent American citizens and Canadian Conservatives, and loyal Liberals arrive at precisely the same conclusion as to the immediate effect and ultimate result of unrestricted reciprocity. They are convinced that its inevitable and necessary consequences will be discrimination in trade against Great Britain and political union with the United States. The Argonaut sees this as clearly as the Toronto Empire and the Montreal Gazette. How is it that the Toronto Globe and other Liberal newspapers affect to arrive at a different conclusion? Simply because they are acting a part and trying to hide the truth from the people of Canada. But they will not succeed. An organized hypocrisy may be, for a time, successful, but when the people are warned and put on their guard they see through its wiles and are not caught in its snares.

A LAME EXCUSE.

The Times admits that in his account of how the money of the people of British Columbia is spent, Mr. Templeman omitted to mention the sum of \$212,151. It says that the Independent member made this omission "designedly," and it enters into a round-about explanation to justify the omission. The explanation is almost as disingenuous as the omission itself. The statement was made to show that the people of British Columbia did not get from the Dominion nearly as much as they pay into the Federal Treasury. In making this statement, Mr. Templeman purposely left out the very considerable sum of \$212,151 which the Dominion pays to the province as an annual subsidy. Is this a fair statement of account? Did not Mr. Templeman make the statement with the intention of leaving his hearers under the impression that they are very badly used and that they do not get their fair share of the public money. This is

clearly shown by the fact that he makes the difference between what, according to his account, British Columbia pays into the Federal Treasury and what it gets out of it as money lost to British Columbia. The calculation is exceedingly crude and imperfect at best, but the omission of the subsidy makes it a dishonest one. The Times invents a *quid pro quo* and under the cover of that very indefinite phrase beats an inglorious retreat. The phrase *quid pro quo* was found to be very handy indeed, but the Times ought to have told its readers what it means. The long and the short of it is, Mr. Templeman tried to deceive his hearers, for if he wanted to make a fair statement of the case he would have told them that he had left out the subsidy and explained why he left it out. But he made no allusion whatever to this large sum that the province receives from the Dominion Government.

FROM THE OTHER SIDE.

If Canadian Liberals persist in affecting blindness as to the logical result of the agitation for unrestricted reciprocity, they are at the most stupid people on earth or the most determined hypocrites that ever wore two faces. The Americans are everywhere telling them, in the most explicit terms, what they think of their agitation for unlimited free trade with their country and what will be the consequences if it is successful. The New York Sun, which has always been outspoken on the subject, in a recent number tells them once more what are the only terms on which Canadians can obtain unrestricted reciprocity. It says:

"At present, however, the majority of the Canadian Liberals do not seem prepared to admit that the unlimited reciprocity which they seek, can be found only in complete political union with the United States. One flag, one country and one tariff is the true Yankee-Canuck platform. There can be no permanent commercial reciprocity or union between the two countries until they become one country. Meanwhile the United States is necessary to Canada, but Canada is not necessary to the United States."

We are afraid that a large number of Canadian Liberals are not so obtuse as they appear to be. They know well enough the price that the United States asks for unrestricted reciprocity, but it does not suit them just now to say that they are willing to pay it. They are afraid of scaring their weaker brethren, who still love the Old Flag and are not prepared for annexation. They, however, keep on agitating for the trade privileges on which the Americans set so high a price. Every one who is at all shrewd can see what that means.

A DAY DREAM.

The Argonaut evidently believes that there is a fair prospect of Canada's falling into the lap of the United States like a ripe pear. It thinks it probable that the efforts of the Liberals to make it ripe for annexation will, before very long, be crowned with success. It discusses the advantages and disadvantages of the acquisition of Canada seriously. The disadvantages are few in its opinion, and the advantages are many. The principal advantage which it dilates upon is that Canada will be a new and a large market for the products of the fields and factories of the United States. The five millions of consumers will want a great deal which is raised and made in the United States and which can be produced there more cheaply than they can in Canada. English goods being kept out by a high tariff, the Americans will have the Canadian market all to themselves. This is how the Argonaut glows over the prospect of Canada, through the exertions of the Canadian Liberals, becoming part and parcel of the United States:

"A second objection is that political union will enable the Canadian farmers to compete with our farmers in our home markets. It should not be forgotten, however, that they would no longer be Canadian farmers, and as such would contribute their due share towards paying our national debt and supporting our national government. They would take vast quantities of our manufactured goods, thereby giving employment to thousands of additional men in our factories, and, in consequence, enlarging our home markets. As the Canadian winter is very cold, an excellent market would be opened for our woolen goods, and this would help us to keep up the price of wool. The summers of Canada being intensely hot, our cotton factories would be called on to supply large quantities of cotton goods, and this would be a benefit to the planters of the South."

"The Canadians, on account of their climate, cannot grow corn to any great extent, and a very good market would be furnished for our surplus corn. As they cannot grow any of the fruits that are grown in warm latitudes they would have to look to us for their supply. Other natural products might be mentioned which they cannot grow on account of their climate, and which we could send to them in large quantities. It should not be forgotten that, although Canada has a population of only five millions, it is a country of vast extent, which, if under the stars and stripes, would, in time, be capable of supporting fifty millions. Our market in Canada would, therefore, become larger every year. It would be as wise to try to send Minnesota and Dakota adrift for the benefit of the farmers of the rest of the Union, as to strive to prevent Canada from becoming a part of the union, because her farmers would compete with those at present in this country. Canada would take as much from us as she would send to us, if she became part of the Union."

The Argonaut, the reader sees, has got the whole thing down very fine, but it is, we are glad to believe, counting its chickens before they are hatched. Although there are some traitors amongst us, it will be a long time yet ere Canadians become hewers of wood and drawers of water for the people of the United States.

The Globe "Away" on.

Toronto, Feb. 27.—The Globe claims all of those elected by acclamation in Quebec as Liberals, and says that although Gordon and Mars are classed as Conservatives they will probably give an independent support to any Government which may be returned to power.

MORE OBSTRUCTION.

The News-Advertiser when discussing the Kootenay Railway charters is weakly obstructive. After giving an account of last year's attempt to obtain a charter, it goes on to say:—

"We are therefore face to face with the simple question—is it desirable to authorize the construction of roads the primary, if not the sole object of which is to extend the trade between the Kootenay mining district with the towns across the boundary line in the United States? That is, shall the trade which is anticipated will spring up by the development of the minerals of the Kootenay district be diverted to American towns and cities from the cities and towns of British Columbia? This is really the question to decide."

It will be observed that the Advertiser does not present to the public an alternative. We would state the position somewhat differently. We would say—we are face to face with the simple question—is it desirable to authorize the construction of roads which will aid in the development of the rich Kootenay district at once, and transform what is now a desolate wilderness into a hive of industry, which will be every hour of every day adding to the wealth and the importance of the province, or shall we permit it to remain as it is until it suits the convenience or the interests of the Canadian Pacific Company to supply it with railway accommodation.

We think that intelligent men, who have the interest of the province at heart, can give us no answer to this question. Let us have the railways and the good results that cannot but follow their construction, without an hour's needless delay. When the roads are built and the country made productive, trade can be trusted to take care of itself. It will follow its natural channels in spite of the devil and Dr. Faustus.

We can hardly believe that our contemporary is sincere in raising this bugbear of trade diversion. It knows very well that the first thing that ought to be done is to utilize the resources of the country. The means which will enable those who desire to settle in Kootenay district, to do that most quickly and to the greatest extent, are the best means. It is admitted that the Canadian Pacific is not in the position to do this now. Why then not give those who are willing to undertake the work at once the chance they desire. If they fail the Canadian Pacific will be in no worse a position than it is now, and if they succeed it will be more profitable for them to run their road into a busy freight-producing country than to penetrate an unsettled and almost unexplored country, in which their road must create its own business. We are greatly surprised at the obstinacy and the short-sightedness of the obstructives. National and trade jealousy ought not to be allowed to stand in the way of the progress of what almost everyone says is one of the richest mining regions in the world.

OLD CARIBOO.

It is to be hoped that the Legislature will grant the Ashcroft and Cariboo Company the alteration in their charter they desire. Cariboo ought to be opened up. All that it requires to become a very rich region, perhaps the richest in the province, is railway accommodation. It has been pining for that for years, and the Legislature should give the projectors of the road all the encouragement possible. If the company can get on with the road more speedily with one million of capital than with ten million, why not give it the chance it asks for. If its position is improved by the change, the public which is to benefit by the road, should rejoice. We are quite sure that the people of the province are more than willing to give the company any indulgence that will aid in raising Cariboo to its old pre-eminence.

MR. TEMPLEMAN'S LETTER.

Mr. Templeman's letter does not, we think, improve his position in the least. He admits that in his account of what British Columbia gives to the Dominion and what she receives from the Dominion, he left out the subsidy \$212,151. This was our charge, and Mr. Templeman pleads guilty to it. He says that he left the subsidy out for certain reasons. But on the stump he did not say as much as hint that among the receipts of the province was this subsidy. The \$212,151 is never mentioned.

When brought to book for the omission by the Colonist, he acknowledges that he omitted the subsidy and that he did so designedly. This is exactly what we accused him of. He says in his letter, "Your charge is that I omitted the sum of \$212,151, which is received by the Province as subsidies, and forms a portion of the revenues of the local Government." Precisely. There was no error in that. That sum is received by the Province, and forms part of the revenue of the local Government. What is there to withdraw? If the Dominion Government did not pay the money, and if the Provincial Government did not receive it, there would be some reason in saying that we were in error, and in asking us to retract. But as Mr. Templeman admits that the facts are exactly as we stated them, why does he ask us to withdraw the charge?

Mr. Templeman now gives his reasons for making the omission, and for saying that the difference between \$1,260,044 paid into the Federal Treasury by British Columbia and \$998,763, which, according to Mr. Templeman, the Province receives every year, is lost to British Columbia. If these reasons are satisfactory to Mr. Templeman, we are sure that they are not satisfactory to any man, no matter to what party he may belong, who has any knowledge of Dominion finance and of the relation which the provinces bear to the Federal Government.

Such a person, whether Grit or Tory, will at once say that if Mr. Templeman's statement is not the crude work of a novice in politics who is more than commonly rash and ignorant, it is the production of a charlatan who is attempting in the clumsiest way possible to deceive the electors.

Mr. Templeman very properly speaks of the federation of the provinces as a partnership. A bargain was made by British Columbia by which it agreed to surrender the revenues from customs, excise and public works for certain considerations. It was to be a full partner in the concern, and was to receive its share of all benefits accruing from the partnership, and to bear its share of all its expenses and other burdens. The subsidy for Government and legislation, the per capita allowance and the allowance for the difference of debt were granted by the Dominion. No one supposes that these were a free gift to British Columbia. The Dominion Government was expected to recoup itself for these annual grants out of the monies to be received from British Columbia. The Dominion Government had no money of its own, it had to live on what it received from the provinces and pay them subsidies besides. Not to give the Dominion Government credit for the \$112,000 subsidies was exceedingly foolish in Mr. Templeman. There is no other *quid pro quo* for this money than the revenue which the province pays into the Dominion Treasury.

But Mr. Templeman's foolishness, or his disingenuousness, does not stop here. British Columbia being a partner in this Dominion concern must be charged with its proportionate share of all its expenses. One great item of that expense is interest on the national debt, and the sinking fund. That, according to Sir Richard Cartwright, amounted last year to \$12,107,735. Assuming that on the basis of population this province is the fiftieth part of the Dominion, then its share of this expense would be \$243,154. This is a pretty big slice off Mr. Templeman's \$582,181 "lost to British Columbia." But there is more still. The charges for collection of the revenue of the Dominion is an item of general expense. This amounted in 1889 to \$7,774,000. British Columbia's share of that would be \$175,480. Here is another slice to take off the Templeman surplus. These three items alone make \$522,634. We do not see that it is necessary for us to pursue this subject any further. There are other matters, such as the expenses of the civil service, including the salary of the Governor General, the expense of the Dominion Parliament, the Supreme Court, and other Federal institutions and services, a share of the maintenance of which this province when it entered the confederation undertook to bear, but we have said enough to demonstrate that Mr. Templeman has taken a very partial and a most superficial view of the subject, and that whether designedly or ignorantly, he has endeavored to lead the electors astray as to the financial relations between the province and the Dominion Government.

With regard to the allowance for land Mr. Templeman is correct, and that is the reason we have not included the \$100,000 a year in our rough calculation. That sum was given in consideration of the railway belt. The province has received during the past 20 years two million dollars for that 13,000,000 acres or so of land, and will receive \$100,000 a year in perpetuity for it besides the taxes, which those who settle upon it will have to pay. When the nature and the quality of the land are taken into consideration the general conclusion will, we think, be that with regard to the railway belt the bargain made by the province was a pretty good one.

Mr. Templeman may think that the province would fare better if it were a state of the union. But it would not do nearly so well. The Federal Government would take from it every cent collected as custom and excise duties, and would give back nothing in return except a few postmasters and a public building or two. American statesmen do not believe in salaries or allowances of any kind to the different members of the confederation. Each state is required to hoe its own row.

THE OTHER SIDE.

The Liberals of Canada think that they have completely settled the reciprocity bargain with the United States—or rather, they are trying to make the electors think they have. We are, according to them, to have no duties like on foreign imports, and yet have unlimited free trade with our neighbors across the border. But the Yankees are to have their say in the matter. We have seen what the New York Tribune has said about the "silly" Canadians, like children crying for the moon, who want to have free trade with the States with power to make their own tariff. But the Tribune is not the only paper in New York which maintains that if Canadians want reciprocity they must hand over to the United States the power to make the tariff for the two countries. The New York Post, which is one of the most liberal of the American papers, as regards trade, makes no bones about saying that—

"If Canada agrees to have the same tariff as the United States, the making of it must, of necessity, be left to the American Congress; or in other words, the power to tax the Canadians must be ceded to the United States, and the power to tax soon carries all other powers with it. It is just as well for everybody who is interested in this movement on either side of the line to bear this in mind."

There is no misunderstanding this. The Post asserts that the United States must have the power of taxation. This would make slaves of Canadians, for taxation without representation, is regarded by free-born Britons as

slavery. They fought against it in the past and it is not likely that they are going, voluntarily, to choose it now. That the Americans arrogate this power to themselves, shows in what low esteem they hold those Canadians who are aneaking around them and fawning upon them, to get from them unrestricted reciprocity. If they believed that those Canadians had in them the true British spirit they would not dream of stipulating for the power to tax them without their own consent.

ANOTHER LESSON.

When Mr. Marchant has found out what the New York Tribune means about making Canada a back-door for smuggling goods into the United States, he may tackle the following extract from an article that appeared in a recent number of the Chicago Times. The subject which it discusses is the Canadian Liberal proposal for unrestricted reciprocity. The Times says:—

"It must not be forgotten that the proposition implies a complete surrender by the Dominion Parliament to the American Congress of all control over the principal source of the Dominion's revenue, the tariff. Whatever it may please the American Congress to do regarding the tariff, that the Dominion Government must forthwith accept."

If Mr. Marchant is a true Englishman his blood will boil and his eyes will flash to see that an American citizen, or the citizen of any country that the sun shines on, should have the insolence and the audacity to address Englishmen in such terms. He will indignantly say or sing "Britons never, never shall be slaves."

But they would be slaves, and worse, if they sold their freedom to the Americans in this way. But this is the bargain which the Americans expect Canadians to make, and the Liberals with whom Mr. Marchant has allied himself show that they are willing to sell themselves for the price they name—unrestricted reciprocity. If he masters this and other utterances of the American press he will find where he stands. This campaign will be to him a campaign of education if it is nothing else.

SKIN DEEP.

Civilization has not done so much for man after all. The French are considered the most polished and gallant people on the face of the earth. They pride themselves on their politeness and on their strict and constant observance of the amenities of society. No one can bow so gracefully as a Frenchman, and no one bows so frequently. His deference to the fair sex is most ostentatious. He is the ardent admirer and the humble slave of every lady he meets. He is as polite to a shop girl as he would be to a duchess, and would not think of keeping his hat on while she is trying to find a pair of gloves for him, or trying up a package. But it appears that all this gallantry and civility is on the outside. It is only skin deep. It is said that if you scratch a Russian you will find a Tartar, but no one has said if you scratch a Frenchman you will find a pretty rough fellow. Yes, a recent event leads us to form these conclusions. A lady, a very estimable lady, visited Paris the other day. Her errand was a friendly one. But because she was the mother of the German Emperor, she was treated with what must be regarded as incivility by people of rank and station, and it was with difficulty that she, well dressed mob in the street was restrained from assaulting her. We read that when she was leaving Paris she was, for fear of insult and perhaps violence, obliged to take a different route from the one intended. One would expect that a lady, no matter to whom she might be related, would be sure of being treated with politeness in Paris. But the treatment which the Empress of Germany received was the reverse of polite. We do not say that the Dowager Empress did what was wise or judicious in visiting Paris. She might have known that a member of the royal family of Germany would not be welcome there, and anywhere in the world people are foolish to go where they know they are not wanted. But she, doubtless, thought that among a people so famed for their good manners as the French, she would be treated with courtesy even if she were not welcome. But she found that she was mistaken. She put the politeness of the Parisians to what may be considered not a very severe test, but they were found wanting. She learned a lesson and taught the world one.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

There are many men of both parties in Canada who will heartily approve the following declaration made by the London Times when discussing the political situation in Canada:—

"Far above all questions of mere fiscal convenience or expediency, we place the maintenance of Imperial unity, which is in Canada a faith passionately held by a very large section of the people of the Dominion."

The staunch old Liberals of Huntingdon and Chateauguay, Quebec, have let their late representatives, Mr. Servier and Mr. Holton know that they won't have any annexation in their, and that if they intend to take their stand on the unrestricted reciprocity platform the sooner they step down and out the better. Mr. Holton we see has taken the hint and retired into private life.

What the people of England think of discrimination against the Mother Country by a dependency may be seen from the following passage from the Salisbury Journal:—

"We have allowed Canada in one hemisphere and Victoria in another to protect themselves all around and tax British and foreign goods alike; but the demand that a British colony shall be allowed to FAVOR A FOREIGN NATION AT THE EXPENSE

OF THE MOTHER COUNTRY CAN NEVER BE ENTERTAINED WHILE CANADA REMAINS A PORTION OF THE EMPIRE."

DR. HELMCKEN struck the proper note, on Friday evening, at E. quimatt. What the Liberals are working for is political union with the United States. Some of them are honest enough to say so, but others are trying to keep dark. The Doctor knows that the man who votes for unrestricted reciprocity with the United States, whether he is aware of it or not, votes for the severance of the tie which binds this country to Great Britain. He was, therefore, right in appealing to the loyalty of his hearers. The man who loves the old country and the Old Flag, who honors the Queen, and who is proud of being a true Briton, votes against his principles when he casts his ballot for the Unrestricted Reciprocity candidates. The question at issue is really British Connection or Annexation. This is the conclusion at which many wise and loyal men, besides Dr. Helmcken, on both sides of the Atlantic, have arrived.

THE EMPIRE, Toronto, of the 17th February contained a very full report of Premier Robson's impromptu speech delivered at Blaine and Fairhaven on the 16th February, and remarks editorially thereon:—

NO ANNEXATION FOR B.C.
Those Grits who have for a year or two past been so justly shouting that British Columbia must have free trade with the United States or they will be driven into annexation should read the speeches of Hon. John Robson in another column. Surely the Premier of the Pacific province is competent to speak for his people, and he says that not only does British Columbia not want annexation, but they do not even favor Commercial Union, though a restricted reciprocity in certain products—the policy of Sir John Macdonald—would meet with their approval. His patriotic words, as he extolled Canada, her resources, hopes and aspirations, have the right ring about them.

We note that these speeches have been published quite extensively in Old Canada, and accepted as evidence that British Columbia, the youngest and most tempted province of the Dominion, is loyal to the old flag—a proposition which we feel assured will receive still farther confirmation in the result of the impending elections.

The very offensive heading to the letter signed "A Yale District Voter," was published through an unaccountable oversight. We would not intentionally allow a disrespectful word of Mr. Martin to appear in our columns. He is a gentleman whom we hold in very high esteem. We know him to be a most conscientious and diligent representative, doing all that lies in his power to advance the interests and enforce the claims of his constituents. The electors of Yale have shown their appreciation of him by returning him as their representative in the Legislative Assembly for three successive elections. This shows that he does not deserve to be spoken of in the scurrilous terms used by our correspondent. We are always ready to publish letters criticizing the public acts of public men, but those letters must be couched in respectful and moderate language. Men who desire to make personal attacks on their neighbors, no matter on what pretext, need not send their letters to the Colonist. We very much regret having published our Yale correspondent's letter. We wish to say that the explanation and expression of regret are entirely voluntary on our part. Mr. Martin has not only not asked for it, but has not so much as hinted that he expected anything of the kind.

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PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

First Session of the Sixth

TWENTY FOURTH

THURSDAY, Feb.

MR. SPEAKER took the

o'clock.

After prayers by Rev. D. F.

PRIVILEGE.

HON. MR. BEAVEN rose to

privilege, with reference to a

scored yesterday, when the

the Railway Committee was in

The SPEAKER said that in

plantation to make which he is

render any remarks by the hon.

necessary. He (the Speaker)

the sergeant-at-arms to convey