

**MR. GALT'S RETROGRADE MOVEMENT ;—THE OBJECT OF THE FOLLOWING BEING TO SHEW THE ABSOLUTE NECESSITY OF A HOMELY OR PATRIOTIC, AND PERMANENT POLICY FOR CANADA.**

(CIRCULAR TO THE MEMBERS OF BOTH HOUSES OF THE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.)

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,

Quebec, 1st May, 1860.

SIR,—

I take the liberty to solicit your attention to a very important matter. I have opportunities, possessed by few of you, of knowing the extent of the actual distress now existing in the Province, in consequence of the scarcity of Money and Employment, and of the paralysis creeping over its energies, from the feeling that neither the government nor the opposition recognize the People's Employment to be the first question in politics, and that to which all others ought to give way. But if, as I believe, more than three-fourths of both Houses of Parliament, and as large a proportion of the present, as well as of the late government, recognize the above great truth, and see Employment for the People to be the great object of politics, why cannot we get it constitutionally declared?

It appears to me that the present proposal of the government, to take off the duty on books of 10 per cent. (put on only last year), which practically is just PROTECTION TO UNITED STATES PUBLISHERS, calls loudly for this subject being now brought up, as being a complete subversion of the principle we contend for; and I take the liberty to bring before you Resolutions which would assert our common views, in case Mr. Galt unfortunately should persist in refusing to except Books WHICH ACTUALLY ARE PRINTED IN THE PROVINCE.

**RESOLUTIONS.**

1. That the frequent changes and alterations respecting the amount of duties of Customs have the effect of preventing capital, foreign or Canadian, being employed in the creating and maintaining of our native industry.

2. That it is contrary to sound policy to discourage the publishing, within the Province, of School Books, and to prevent the only mode of securing uniformity in the teaching of our private as well as our public Schools, and a national Canadian education and sentiment.

3. That there ought to be a distinction drawn between Books which we do print and which we do not print, the latter being a fit article to add to the list of articles, such as Tea, Sugar, &c., which we cannot grow or manufacture, and on which there ought, therefore, to be no duty, except for revenue.

4. That, generally, we ought not to reduce the duty on articles which we can manufacture, except the Americans reciprocate with us in the particular article.

5. That the Employment of the Province is invaded, and Annexation of Canada to the United States made more the interest of Canadians, by the course of the Imperial parliament and authorities—the Free Trade legislation of the Imperial parliament in 1846 having left the Canadian farmer in a position to be greatly benefitted by annexation which would give him the American market as well as the English market for his productions; and the late interference of the Imperial authorities regarding the Canadian Tariff, and especially in regard to Books, making it the interest of the manufacturer to go to the United States, as by doing so he gets the American as well as the Canadian market *free from duty*.

6. That the danger to the farmer has been only temporarily averted by the Americans having yielded to Canadians *reciprocity in natural productions*, and that the danger to both can only be permanently averted by one of two courses—by Canada joining the United States in a Zollverein, similar to the German Zollverein, thus extending to all articles the present principle of reciprocity,—or by the creation, by ourselves, of a Home Market for the Canadian farmer, through our encouraging a manufacturing population in Canada, it being known that, in case of our doing this, a large proportion of the manufacturing population of the United States (who are chiefly British subjects) would speedily return to the province.