

declare to be an uninstructed, imaginary being, (not by any means the keen and intelligent reader who takes up this copy of the Review, and who now turns up his proboscis at this ABC lesson,) has yet sufficient of the spirit of argumentation to say:—"Mr. School-master, even a child can upset your argument. Our Candidate, if he would only condescend so far, would do it in an instant, but he has something of more consequence in hand. Let me propose, in return to your interrogations, a question or two. And in the first place, let me ask you, supposing that money were to come amongst us ever so slowly, cannot our Parliament, by prohibiting its exportation, make it a constantly increasing commodity?" Indeed, we answer, my child, wiser heads than yours or ours have hit upon the expedient long ago, and it has been tried many times over and over, but notwithstanding its excellence, it has failed in all cases. We will not insult you who have the advantage of being born in this enlightened age, and in this enlightened continent, by detailing the number of times when it was made a crime, punishable with death, by European nations, to send abroad the current coin of the realm. Indeed, we scarcely presume to say, that in England, at a very late period, it was made by law a felony to send gold bullion or coin out of the kingdom, and that the law only made the fortunes of Jew brokers, who bought up the prohibited article, and smuggled it out, packed up with British manufactures, with the pretended most patriotic purpose of smuggling the latter into France and Germany. We will go further with you, and admit the possibility of retaining money in a country by this means, and let us quietly inquire into the consequences of such a measure. But lest you should think it strange that English statesmen should attempt what is really not possible, although we have admitted it to be possible for the sake of argument, we let you into the secret, that the Government, while they pleased people like you by pretending that they wanted to keep gold in the country, in fact only wanted to get hold of it themselves, for the purpose of sending it abroad, to pay the armies in the field, and to pay foreign countries for fighting for themselves.

To return to our argument, we give you then all the advantage of an admission, that law will keep money in the country, and we will then see the results. Let us suppose, in

this case, our neighbour, the merchant, who, in consequence of the plenty of money has been able to strip his shelves, and to fill his strong box with dollars. But he owes the wholesale merchant in Buffalo for a great many chests of tea, and kegs of tobacco; and he owes the manufacturer in England, or the Montreal merchant, who owes that manufacturer, for a great many pieces of printed calico, or broad cloth, or packages of Whitechapel needles, warranted not to cut in the eye; what is he to do with the money? He may, you will say, buy wheat, and export it in payment of his debt. But he will tell us that he has already done this, so far as he could procure wheat at a price which would remunerate him, and that there is not in the country one half so much wheat as would pay the debts of the merchants. He might buy land with his money, ay, and so too many of the merchants do to their ruin, but he cannot send the land either to Liverpool, or even to Buffalo. What then is he to do with the money? and how is he to pay his debt?—Well, then, for a moment place yourself in the position of a dishonest man, and say, let the creditors sue and come for their money, or send a power of attorney to our neighbour the lawyer, who will be willing enough to take hard cash for the debt, and, if you press it upon him politely, even for the costs, the latter of course as a personal favour; but the difficulty is not yet surmounted. How is the British or American merchant to get his money? He cannot, as you must remember, take it across the border, or ship it to England. Such a proceeding would be against law, and an offence against the omnipotence of Parliament. Then *you, the student*, will break out into an exclamation, perhaps not quite consistent with the moral and religious education you have already received, let him buy land with the money!—Alas! our friend, land will not pay the mechanics who have made the printed calicoes; land in Canada will not pay the Spanish or Australian wool which Canadians have consumed in their finery; land cannot be sent to China, or to Virginia, in payment for tea or tobacco. And to the foreign merchant, every article that he can purchase with money, is as valueless as land, unless it has a value in foreign countries; and as in the case we suppose, money is prohibited to cross the frontier, that most available article of commerce would forthwith lose its value. It could not purchase any other article