

THE CHIGNETO POST  
EVERY THURSDAY.

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PLAIN AND FANCY PRINTING  
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ADVERTISEMENTS  
Inserted at very Lowest Rates.

E. WOODWORTH, Manager.

Commercial Union and Prohibition.

Dear Sir—There have been so many

reasons given why the Dominion should

not consent to Commercial Union with

the States, it would seem superfluous to say

more, but there is one objection to

which temperance advocates and all well

wishers of our country must not

think cannot be overlooked. It is this:

A treaty is an agreement between two

independent states—a contract—and like

any other contract must be carried out

unless both parties agree to annul it.

Such a treaty could never be annulled,

no matter how ruinous it might prove to

our interests, without the consent of the

States. The Dominion could not pass a

prohibitory law and then open it to

be a violation of the treaty as to

could pass a law putting a heavy duty

on manufactured cotton goods.

Such a treaty would let in, free of duty,

American wines, brandies and all the

stuff of that character manufactured in

the States, and we could not raise a hand

to prevent it. We might as well shut up

our custom houses at once. We might put

duties on French or German liquors, but

the Americans would monopolize the

trade. Merchants would say duty for

liquors when they could get them

free. They have every variety of climate.

California is an enormous grape growing

region, and if it cannot supply us now

with all the liquors we buy, it very soon

would.

They would not only furnish us with

liquors, but they are a rich, enter-

prising people, and with their variety

of climate would soon be prepared to

furnish us with almost everything we want

to import. I cannot see how it could be

possible to raise any revenue by indirect

taxation. Rum would be as free in our

market as brandy, and much more so than

tea and sugar.

This is the position that our Grift friends

would put us in: not leave as a word to

say, but our trade would be in the hands

of the States. What but ruination to our

young manufacturers and taxation for

the payment of our heavy interest and

support of Government must be the conse-

quence?

Temperance reformers find it hard

enough to make head against the liquor

traffic now, when liquor pays heavy duty

but people are becoming convinced, and

are looking forward to a prohibitory law

at no distant day. If all hopes are to be

blasted by free importation of liquors, and

no hopes left for a prohibitory law, then

prospects for reform are bad indeed.

With Commercial Union the Americans

would have no competition in our

markets. We would have to put duties on

goods from all other countries direct, and

perhaps, so that merchants could not

except from Americans. The result

would be the same as if we were to

put duty on all goods from the States,

and have the power of taxation of

knowing the duty paid would go into

the pockets of American merchants, and

not into their own treasuries.

We would have to import much more

than we do now, for the reason that our

factories would in a measure be shut up.

These centres of business would be left

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