

sail in chase, and at 8 a.m. having arrived within pistol shot to windward without the enemy having fired a gun, an action commenced which for determination and steadiness on both sides has been in few instances surpassed—there was no manoeuvring nor even an attempt at it—but owing to some little confusion at the commencement of the action occasioned by the fall of spars the British ships did not succeed in taking their proper place in the line and were unequally matched. After a furious cannonade of three hours and a half Vice Admiral Parker hauled down the signal for battle and lay to for the purpose of repairing damages. The Dutch Admiral also lay to and both fleets were busily employed in repairing the injuries received in action. The loss on the part of the British was 109 killed and 462 wounded—the ships suffered in yards and masts while their hulls testified to the accuracy of their enemy's fire. The loss on the part of the Dutch was more severe—their squadron was obliged to bear away for the Texel—the *Hollandie*, a 60 gun ship, sunk with all her wounded on board, and the loss sustained exclusive of killed and wounded on board her alone amounted to 142 killed and 403 wound. The Dutch claimed a victory because the British had no trophy beyond the flag of the *Hollandie* to show, and this had been taken off the vessel after she sank it did not amount to anything as an evidence of triumph; however the substantial advantage remained with the British, the Dutch being obliged to return to port and the sailing of the Baltic fleet indefinitely postponed. It was also stated that their entire loss was over 1200 men.

The following circular was received by the Ottawa Board of Trade from the Guelph Board of Trade. It as well as the answer explain itself.

To the Secretary of the Ottawa Board of Trade.

SIR:—At a late meeting of the Council of the Board of Trade of Guelph, the subject of our present trade relations with the United States was under discussion, and the following resolution adopted:

"We think the time has come when unity of action should be sought on the part of the various Boards of Trade of the Dominion, with a view to bring this subject before the Legislature at its approaching session in February, and if our opinion be concurred in, to memorialize the Government to legislate in accordance therewith."

While earnest advocates of general Free Trade, we cannot shut our eyes to the suicidal policy of continuing to receive the products of our powerful and wealthy neighbors free, while we, the poorer community, are excluded from their markets by a heavy tariff on ours. We have, since the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, magnanimously opened our markets to them, and allowed them to navigate our canals and river St. Lawrence, and use our Fisheries on nearly equal terms with our own subjects, yet several years of this liberality has failed in bringing about a renewal of Reciprocity, and to all appearances so long as we continue to thus favor them no more may be expected in that direction.

We are disposed then to advocate the imposition of similar duties on all American

products entering Canada for consumption. as is now or may hereafter be levied on ours by the United States, and that such regulations may be enforced as will protect our Fisheries from being encroached upon by all foreigners, that the navigation laws may be so framed that American vessels may pay a fair toll on passing our canals. We believe if this policy had been adopted years ago we would ere now have had a fair Reciprocity Treaty with our neighbors, and that such would advance the prosperity of both nations, and tend to allay much of the jealous and angry feeling now existing on both sides.

We are further instructed to request you to communicate to us at an early day the action taken on this subject by your Board.

JAMES GOLDIE, President,
Geo. ROBINSON, Secretary & Treasurer
Guelph, 14th Jan., 1870.

To the Secretary of the Guelph Board of Trade.

SIR,—In reply to the circular of the Guelph Board of Trade asking for co-operation in endeavoring to lay before the Legislature of the Dominion the subjects of our present trade relations with the United States, and the folly of any longer continuing a policy by which the surplus natural products and manufactures of that country are brought into competition with those of Canada by what may be called a system of premiums and bonuses in the shape of heavy and almost prohibitive duties in their favor.

The Ottawa Board of Trade have taken your circular into serious consideration, and have determined to give all the support in their power to carry out such a system of discriminating import duties as will prevent unfair competition, and to this end a memorial has been prepared asking the Legislature to impose on coal, salt, petroleum and all articles of American manufacture the same duties as are now levied on corresponding articles of Canadian products and manufactures in the States, and also to deprive the people of the United States of liberty of fish in or navigate Canadian waters on equal terms with British subjects.

While deeply deploring the necessity for inaugurating a war of tariffs we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that the conduct of the United States authorities has tended to create a bitter feeling towards that country in the minds of the Canadian people, especially as it has been well understood that the hostile tariffs were imposed not alone for fiscal purposes but to force annexation on Canada, and, therefore, to prevent if possible the spreading of a feeling of hostility to the States, the action which your Board of Trade has inaugurated ought to meet with unanimous approval.

While steadily advocating the true principles of free trade we will not allow it to be made the means of political and commercial destruction, and as Canada is not dependent on the United States for any commercial or other advantage, it is desirable that the current of our trade should be diverted in the Direction of Great Britain and her Colonial possessions. This Board have, therefore, included in their memorial to the Legislature a desire that a reduction of import duties on British and Colonial manufactured goods be effected as discriminating duties in favor of that object.

Looking to the position of the Maritime Provinces, and acknowledging the great politico-economical principle that the fiscal duties of a country should be levied off its surplus labor savings and not of its necessities, the Ottawa Board of Trade could not

consent to advocate the imposition of any duty whatever on agricultural products, breadstuffs, or provisions; in all other matters they are prepared to give the Guelph Board of Trade the active support and sympathy due to their enlightened and energetic action in this matter.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Yr obt. serv't.,
G. H. PERRY,
Member of Council and Sec'y. pro tem.

RED RIVER.

The *Telegraph's* special, dated St. Paul, 12th, states that the convention summoned to meet at Fort Garry on the 25th ult., assembled. After two days spent in preliminaries, on the third day they got to business. Riel spoke in favorable terms of Smith's commission and instructions, and James Ross appeared as an advocate of reconciliation with the Canadian government. Finally Donald Smith was called on. He received quite an ovation from the delegates, and was addressed in something like a speech of welcome by Riel. Riel remarked that now that Canada began to respect them, they were not unwilling to meet her fairly and justly.

Smith in reply suggested that the exact demands of the convention should be made known to him, in order that he might say to what extent he might promise compliance.

Riel then moved that a Committee of three English and three French delegates should be appointed to draw up the proposed document. The committee then adjourned till a future day.

The State of Illinois now has 5,185 miles of railroad, of which 4,708 are open for business, costing, with their equipments, \$115,567,548.

The Halifax *Citizen* says, there is a farmer living at Douglas, Hants Co., who is 103 years of age, and who is still hale and hearty. Nova Scotia is a great country for centenarians.

MILITARY.—The Senior Military Officer in Canada, in notifying the death of Lieut. General Sir C. A. Windham to the troops, says he is sure all ranks will join with him in mourning the loss of this distinguished soldier, and requests that all officers will evince their respect for his memory by wearing mourning for one month.

MILITARY PROMOTION.—The many friends of Capt. F. B. Leys, District Paymaster of Volunteers, will be glad to learn that he has been promoted to the rank of Major, the promotion dating back to Dec. 27, 1869. Major Leys is a careful, painstaking officer, and is much respected by those who have had military business to transact with him. Personally, as a citizen, Mr. Leys has the good opinion and good will of all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance.—*London Free Press*, February 7th.

EMIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES.—During the year 1869, 254,637 emigrants arrived in the United States from various parts of the world. Of these, 96,841 were Germans, 68,632 were Irish; 41,537, English; 24,683, Swedes; 10,411, Scotch; 3,153, Swiss; 1,024, French; 1,342, Dutch; 2,673, Danes; 2,537, Norwegians; 1,540, Italians; 1,032, Welsh. The commutation fund, or \$10 tax per head for all emigrants paid by the captains of vessels to the American Government, amounted in 1868 to \$538,480.50, and for 1869 it amounts to \$650,000.