

characterizes the conduct of Great Britain towards this colony. That sense of justice must indubitably prevent her from exacting a privilege or protection for her products and manufactures which she no longer yields to ours; and that feeling of liberality must deter her from continuing the shackles on our commerce which she has removed from her own.

Hitherto the amount of protection conceded to the products of Canada in the British markets has been so great, as to throw into the shade the advantages which British products have enjoyed in this market, at least such has been the prevailing opinion; but the following table, showing at one view the discrimination which our tariff makes between British and foreign, in some of our principal articles of import, amply proves that the inhabitants of Canada have not been lightly taxed in return for that protection.

ARTICLES.	FOREIGN.	BRITISH.	Discrimination.
Books - - -	12 per cent. - - -	5 per cent. - - -	7 per cent.
Candles, Sperm - -	15 per cent. and 2 d. per lb.	2 d. per lb. - - -	15 per cent.
Ditto, Wax - - -	7 per cent. and 2 d. per lb.	2 d. per lb. - - -	7 per cent.
Ditto, other kinds - -	7 per cent. and 1 d. per lb.	1 d. per lb. - - -	7 per cent.
Coffee - - -	5 s. per cwt. and 1 d. per lb.	1 d. per lb. - - -	5 s. per cwt.
Ditto, roasted - -	5 s. per cwt. and 2 d. per lb.	2 d. per lb. - - -	5 s. per cwt.
Glass and Glass Ware -	20 per cent. - - -	5 per cent. - - -	15 per cent.
Harness - - -	12 per cent. - - -	5 per cent. - - -	7 per cent.
Hardware - - -	12 per cent. - - -	5 per cent. - - -	7 per cent.
Hats, Leather, Woollen,			
Cotton - - -	12 per cent. - - -	5 per cent. - - -	7 per cent.
Ditto, Silk - - -	20 per cent. - - -	5 per cent. - - -	15 per cent.
Iron, except Pig - - -	12 per cent. - - -	5 per cent. - - -	7 per cent.
Jewellery - - -	12 per cent. - - -	5 per cent. - - -	7 per cent.
Leather Manufactures -	12 per cent. - - -	5 per cent. - - -	7 per cent.
Machinery - - -	17 per cent. - - -	10 per cent. - - -	7 per cent.
Musical Instruments -	12 per cent. - - -	5 per cent. - - -	7 per cent.
Manufactures, Cotton,			
Linen, Woollen - -	12 per cent. - - -	5 per cent. - - -	7 per cent.
Oakum - - -	7 per cent. - - -	free - - -	7 per cent.
Oil, Fish - - -	16 per cent. - - -	1 per cent. - - -	15 per cent.
Oilcloth - - -	12 per cent. - - -	5 per cent. - - -	7 per cent.
Paper Manufactures -	12 per cent. - - -	5 per cent. - - -	7 per cent.
Spirits, Rum - - -	1 s. per gallon - - -	6 d. per gallon - -	6 d. per gal.
Brandy, and other spirits	2 s. 3 d. per gallon -	1 s. 3 d. per gallon -	1 s. per gal.
Sugar, refined - - -	20 per cent. and 2 d. per lb.	10 per cent. and 2 d. per lb.	10 per cent.
Ditto, Muscovada and			
Bastard - - -	14 s. 4 d. per cwt. - -	9 s. 4 d. per cwt. - -	5 s. per cwt.
Sugar Candy - - -	20 per cent. and 2 d. per lb.	2 d. per lb. - - -	20 per cent.

On most articles of import not included in the above Table, there is a protection in favour of British goods, varying from four per centum upwards; and on all foreign articles from the warehouse in the United Kingdom, 25 per centum of the Imperial duty is remitted.

But important to the future prosperity of this province as this Association deems the abolition of discriminating duties to be, that question sinks into insignificance when compared with that of the opening of the navigation of the St. Lawrence to foreign nations. That river is obviously the most essential element of our power, and on the use we make of the natural advantage it affords, will mainly depend our future position as a commercial country. The natural outlet for the products of the Western States, a country but newly sprung into existence, and yet numbering already upwards of four millions of inhabitants.— Shall its full capabilities be made available? Shall we, possessing this great highway to the ocean, succumb, without at least a struggle, to our competitors in the race for commercial preeminence? It is true that we shall have to contend against difficulties which the energy and enterprise of our neighbours have interposed. It is true that railroads and canals are being constructed to branch out in every direction from the stream of the St. Lawrence, in order to divert that produce to the ports of the United States, which would otherwise be brought to our own ports for shipment. Nor is the rivalry of our competitors confined to the construction of these public works. In order to make them profitable she modifies her fiscal system, so as to allow our articles of merchandize to pass through her territory free of duty, both from and to the Atlantic Ocean. How are we to meet and counteract this interested but enlightened policy? Simply by adopting a similar course of action. We must, in like manner, remove every obstacle in the way, and hold out every possible inducement to the inhabitants of the United States to pass their merchandize through our country. Instead of hermetically sealing to their ships the outlet of the St. Lawrence, we must offer to them the free navigation of its waters, subject only to such a moderate imposition in the shape of tolls as will suffice for the annual expense of keeping the canals in repair, the payment of the interest of the money expended in their construction, and the appropriation for the sinking fund for the redemption of the debt incurred.