

F.P.A.), should have been insured against all loss ("with particular average"), and that in fact, the insurance effected did not insure, and was therefore not in fulfilment of the terms of the contract of sale. This view was sustained by Judge Trenholme, before whom the case was heard, after many experienced witnesses had been examined during three days, the actual amount of damage sustained to be computed and declared later. His Lordship gave his decision without leaving the bench, adding that he would not even require the evidence to be transcribed. The result of this decision is that sellers of merchandise at C.I.F. (Cost, Insurance and Freight) prices must insure according to the liability to damage of the articles thus sold. It appears that a very similar case was before the courts in France in 1884, and was similarly decided.

#### SIR RICHARD CARTWRIGHT'S SPEECH.

Sir Richard Cartwright, in his speech in Toronto a week ago yesterday, struck two notes which, though they have been but little played upon in the past, have set answering chords vibrating in the minds of many thinking people. His recapitulation of the story of Canada's marvellous commercial progress during the last few years, made pleasant hearing, but it is not to this part of his speech that we refer; and probably a statesman of an opposite complexion of politics could easily tell the same tale in such a manner that its heroes would be quite distinct from those eulogized by Sir Richard.

What we would rather dwell upon at this time is his treatment of the Great American Bogey. Far be it from us to apologize for some of the acts or for the general conduct of our neighbors to the south towards ourselves; for it is quite true, as Sir Richard remarked, that "they have sometimes descended to sharp practices unworthy of a great nation." But this does not excuse the attitude towards the United States of a large section of our own population, for whom no sneer at the former is sufficiently withering, no misrepresentation too wide of the mark. Self-reliance in a young nation is a good quality, but when it degenerates into perkiness and a blindness to the real proportions of things, it becomes not only undignified, but a menace to our own interests. Useless depreciation is worse than useless; it incites antagonism where friendship, or at any rate a friendly understanding should reign; and, however pleasing it may sound in some ears to hear constant predictions of the irrevocable ruin of the American people, we are face to face with a condition, not a theory—and the United States is at the present time among the most powerful and in some respects one of the greatest nations known in history. Foolish talk against the United States should be guarded against, as Sir Richard said in his speech, not because we as Canadians need grovel to them, but because they are neighbors and, being closely related to ourselves in blood, in methods, and in purpose, it is much more mutually beneficial in the long run so to act; and because, as some one else observed, there can be no greater act of enmity to the British Empire than the

attempt to sow enmity between it and the United States.

Approval of this sentiment, however, does not imply approval of the methods which have apparently been adopted by British statesmen to gain the friendship of the Americans. Sir Richard gave as his chief reason for supporting Mr. Chamberlain's policy the supposition that it would cause the United States to enter into reciprocal trade arrangements. His policy would be, not to beg for favors, but to force the Americans to be friendly to prevent the practical ruin of their own trade; a very different proposition, and one, on the face of it, much more liable to meet with success than the habit of giving way to each fresh demand.

And this brings us to the other above-mentioned note struck by Sir Richard. In discussing Mr. Chamberlain's plan for making a preferential tariff league for the Empire, we wonder how many have asked themselves the question, how long would Canada be able to keep that privilege to itself? The instant that the United States and probably other countries, as well, see what an advantage such a British preference will give the colonies, they would sue for something similar; and the instant such privilege is obtained, Canada's advantage, in itself, ceases. This will be a new point of view, we imagine, to some enthusiasts. We are, nevertheless, fully aware that it creates no new argument against the adoption of Mr. Chamberlain's scheme; for if its principle of reciprocity be adopted, Canada could, least of any country, afford to be left out of the arrangement.

#### THE FISCAL FIGHT IN BRITAIN.

Recent cable news from Great Britain is interesting, as showing that Canada and the other colonies are taking a greater place than perhaps ever before in the regard of Old Country folk. Monday's cables show a great variety in the views of speakers before the London Chamber of Commerce; but even Lord Brassey, who avows himself a follower of Rosebery, thinks "an interchange of opinions as to the best way to help each other" is an eminently practical thing. Here is evidence of the good it has done the delegates to see Canada and to hear Canadians, as they have done this year. On the other hand the Daily News calls a commission, such as is proposed to be formed to discuss trade and tariff problems, "eccentric and anarchical," mainly, we are at liberty to infer, because such a commission would "betray distrust of the British Board of Trade." Exactly. Anything which differs from the free trade ideas of 1850, and the machinery adjusted to them, must be wrong, no matter how much conditions may have changed since. It might be premature to lay too much stress upon "the victory of Mr. Chamberlain's policy," as it is called, in Lewisham and Dulwich on Tuesday. But it is undeniable that Chamberlain's anti-free import views are taking a strong hold in various parts of the United Kingdom. Among the Canadians who have been speaking over there, Mr. Andrew Patullo, of Woodstock, Ontario, expressed to an audience at Leyton his amazement at the views of the Duke of Devonshire and other Liberal leaders re Canada. "Be-