

in Canada.

*Will the adoption of Free Trade in Canada enlarge an old factory, or give its employees more work. If so, how?*

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and that protection would be carried by acclamation by the working classes, were it not for the "big and little loaf"—the agricultural difficulty. As things now stand, it may be said with perfect truth that land and labor are alike both being ruined by free imports; but how to arrange a compromise that shall satisfy both is not so easy to see. As a large landowner, and also one of the largest employers of labor in manufactures, minerals and agriculture, I know well, and feel daily, the disastrous effects of free imports, but how to find a remedy that shall satisfy the various and often conflicting interests, is no easy problem. It is the "cheap loaf"—so-called—that tempts the working man to his ruin, whereas it is really to him the very dearest loaf in Europe, as he loses more in wages by the free importation of foreign manufactures than would pay twice over for all the corn that he consumes. But want of work, destitution and hunger must eventually compel a change.

### Average Tax (Customs and Excise) Per Capita, for 10 years— 1882 to 1892.

Great Britain	\$ 9 70	Portugal	... \$ 7 16
France	.... 13 20	Holland	.... 9 08
Germany	.... 6 69	Australia	.... 15 00
Italy	.... 8 96	Argentina	.. 13 50
Spain	.... 8 85	United States	5 65
Canada	.....		\$ 6 00

### An Important Opinion.

"Every nation is trying how it can get the greatest possible protection for its own industries, and, at the same time, the greatest possible access to the markets of its neighbors. I observe that while A is very anxious to get a favor of B, B is anxious to get a favor of C, nobody cares two straws about getting the commercial favor of Great Britain. What is the reason of that? It is that in this great battle Great Britain has stripped herself of the weapons by which the battle has to be fought. The weapon with which they all fight is admission to their own markets—that is to say, A says to B, "if you will make your duties such that I can sell in your market, I will make my duties such that you can sell in my market." But we begin by saying, "We will levy no duties on anybody," and we declare that it

would be contrary and disloyal to the glorious and sacred doctrine of free trade to levy any duty on anybody for the sake of what we can get by it. It may be noble, but it is not business."—Lord Salisbury, Premier of Great Britain.

### The Grangers' Petition of 1876.

The following is the petition sent by the Grangers of the Dominion to the so-called Liberal Government in 1876:

"That whereas agriculture is a prominent interest of this Dominion and the prosperity of all classes depends largely upon the success of the farmer, it is desirable to enact such laws as shall insure that success.

"As practical farmers we cannot but view with regret our markets filled with the American produce free of duty, while Canadian produce is heavily taxed when sent to the United States' markets.

"Your petitioners respectfully pray for such protection as will secure the home market for the home producer; or that the same rate of duty be levied on all agricultural products coming into the Dominion from foreign countries that is imposed by said foreign countries upon our produce."

Although this petition was signed by over 100,000 representative farmers of Canada, nothing was done with it. The "Reform" Government practically threw it into the waste basket, acknowledging at the same time that they were but "flies on the wheel" and could do nothing.

### Mr. Mackenzie's Estimate of the Grit Character.

The following letter published in the *Globe*, of April 18th, 1892, gives Hon. Alex. Mackenzie's opinion of the Grit politician's character, during the palmy days of "Liberalism" in Canada:—

OTTAWA, APRIL 27, 1875.

"My dear H—, I have your note regarding C—. I will endeavor to employ him within a few days at Thunder Bay, on the commissariat staff, though I fear he is rather old, especially as his chief, B's father is older.

"I would like much to be relieved of the public works department, but I cannot see my way to that at present. It is the great spending department, the possible great jobbing department, the department that can make or ruin a government at such a time as this when \$25,000,000 are in the power of its head to spend on public works. Friends (?) expect to be benefitted by offices they are unfit for, by contracts they are not entitled to, by advances not earned. Enemies

*An out-of-work man is a poor customer for the store-keeper. The merchant is as much interested in keeping the factories busy as the manufacturer himself.*

beef, pork,