

THE CLIMAX  
OF  
PROTECTION AND FREE TRADE  
CAPPED BY  
ANNEXATION.

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CHAPTER FIRST.

WE have not unadvisedly assumed the doctrine that orderly and peaceable separation from the Mother Country, and subsequent Annexation to the United States, were essential to the salvation of Canada ; we ranked among the warmest admirers of British Connexion, although, for a lapse of time, pre-admonished, by the complication of ills our country was heir to, that a change was impending. The final adoption, however, by England of FREE TRADE—rendered imperious by the wants and growing necessities of her PEOPLE—was at once the knell of PROTECTION, and the signal for that change ; while it demonstrated that with England, at least the two systems became from thenceforth incompatible.