

In the face of the existence of such a condition, it is clear that the manufacturers have it in their power to keep out of the House of Commons so-called N.P. members, who are such by word of mouth only. The spirit of the N.P. must be observed.

### CANADIAN-AMERICAN TRADE.

An interesting report on the foreign trade of Canada, in which the commerce of the Dominion with the United States is compared with that of Great Britain, has recently been compiled by Consul Ryder, of Quebec, and transmitted to the American Department of State. It appears from the statistics furnished that more than one-half of the goods imported into Canada came from the United States, exceeding in value by about \$17,000,000 those from Great Britain. On the other hand the Canadian export trade with Great Britain exceeds by more than \$12,000,000 that which is carried on with the United States. This presents a somewhat remarkable state of affairs, for under ordinary conditions it would be natural to suppose that exports and imports, as far as the two countries on this side of the Atlantic are concerned, would tend to balance each other. Attention, however, is called to the fact that the balance of trade in favor of the United States is greater than the figures seem to indicate, for in several branches where the imports from Great Britain exceed those from the United States they include large quantities of partially manufactured goods and raw material admitted at low rates of duty, such as in the case of manufacturers of iron and steel, when there are heavy English shipments of refuse scrap iron, pigs, bars and common black sheet iron, while the imports from the United States are principally of building iron and finished hardware, such as tools, locks, saws and instruments for surgical and other uses. According to this report the United States monopolizes the importation of agricultural implements, musical instruments, printing machinery, electrical supplies, fine papers and papetries, leather and manufactures of leather, rubber boots, shoes and belting, watch and clock movements, field and garden seeds, binders' twine, etc. In manufactures of tin the United States supply ten times as much as Great Britain. Last year that country contributed more wool (washed, not further prepared) than any other country, amounting to \$555,093. The United States furnished fifty per cent. of the total imports of dried fruits, such as currants, raisins, plums, prunes, etc. The importation of gold and silver jewelry from the United States were four times the amount from all other countries combined. While Canada exports about \$11,000,000 worth of unmanufactured product of her forests to the United States, she receives in return nearly \$3,000,000 worth of American manufactured wood, an important item being a fine class of furniture. In drugs and chemicals (free and dutiable) the United States furnishes more than twice the amount of Great Britain. The importation of cotton goods from Great Britain increased last year over \$1,000,000, and there was a decrease of \$23,553 in like imports from the United States. Great Britain controls the Canadian market for woolen goods, yet there was a decline of more than \$1,000,000 in the imports compared with 1890. There was a shrinkage of the imports of rubber goods, which

the consul says, was owing to successful home production, stimulated by a thirty-five per cent. tariff. Among the larger items of import into the Dominion from the United States are coal and coke, which increased about \$500,000, raising the total above \$4,300,000. The exports from Canada to the United States show an increase of \$637,543 in minerals; product of fisheries, \$957,258; product of forest, \$1,488,418; manufactures, \$339,141. There is a decrease of \$650,495 in animals and their produce, \$228,007 in agricultural products and \$33,629 in miscellaneous articles.

This all goes to show, according to the Philadelphia *Manufacturers' Review*, that American manufacturers have it within their power to further extend their trade with Canada, for what has been done in so many branches of industry can certainly be accomplished in others. It thinks that under the favorable conditions by which American manufacturers are now surrounded, it should not be difficult to obtain possession of the Canadian trade in those lines which are now controlled by Great Britain, even without the aid of reciprocity, although, it admits, a reciprocity treaty would immensely further that trade. "The field is open," it says, "to the efforts of enterprising manufacturers in the United States, and it surely presents an inviting prospect to those who may desire to extend their business beyond the supplying of the home market."

This all goes to show something else. It goes to show that the Americans appreciate the value of the Canadian market, and that they are using and will use strong efforts to possess it. If this market is worth so much to them, it is certainly worth something to us. What is it worth? The desire of the United States to trade with Canada is entirely secondary with them to make Canada a part of the American Union. The endeavor to effect this is materialized in the McKinley tariff wherein Canadian products are excluded from the American market. American statesmen think that we can be squeezed into unrestricted reciprocity, or commercial union, or annexation—for these are all synonymous terms—by shutting us out of their market except upon terms to be dictated entirely by themselves, knowing that our assent to such terms would give their manufacturers entire control of our market, to the exclusion of British and foreign manufacturers, and the destruction of Canadian manufacturing industries. Shall we allow ourselves to be thus squeezed? Is it worth our while to resist the pressure?

As things now stand American manufacturers are the strongest and most formidable competitors of Canadian manufacturers in our home market. As Consul Ryder shows, American goods of certain descriptions have driven out British goods, the capture of the entire market being seemingly in sight. And still in view of the fact of this condition—in view of the fact that we do such a large business with the United States which is constantly increasing—we find that generous and benevolent country squeezing us in every possible way. Shall we stand it? An import duty of five cents per dozen on Yankee eggs cannot afford us any relief, and what are we going to do about it? Mr. Blaine has exhibited to us an object lesson, the importance of which we do not seem to comprehend. With the whip handle in his hand he forced the West India Islands and the South American States to grant special privileges in the introduction of American products into their