

Under date of October 28 an Order in Council was passed, placing the town of Mitchell, Ontario in the list of outports of Customs, and constituting it a warehousing port under the survey of the Collector of Customs at the Port of Stratford, to take effect from December 1st, 1893.

THE EMPIRE AND ITS EDITORIALS.

IF it is not the result of gross ignorance, then it cannot but be of the most bitter partisanship on the part of the Empire that impels it to say so many ridiculous things in its editorial pages anent American politicians and the American form of government. Thus in a recent article, in which Mr. Andrew Carnegie and some of his sayings are discussed, speaking of Mr. Cleveland and the recent elections in some of the States, it says :

Finding that the great uncertainty regarding the President's intentions had unsettled commercial affairs and had tended largely to produce the disastrous conditions which obtain throughout the Union, the electors of many states seized the opportunity of the fall voting to express their opinion again, and that opinion, as shown in the returns, is something to give Mr. Cleveland pause. He has declared his intention of doing nothing which will be detrimental to American manufacturing interests, and although a vigorous policy may be expected from him on the minor details of tariff reform, so as to relieve as far as possible the farmer and the mechanic from any serious disability under which they may lie, he will not carry his reform so far as to jeopardize the stability of the country's trade, internal and external. He occupies a unique position, the like of which there is in no other country. No potentate upon earth has greater power than he, and in such a sovereignty it is well that there is a strong, able, wise and honorable man. Were he responsible to the people complications might arise, through the obvious change which has taken place in public opinion in that country within the past few months, serious enough to force him to go to the country, but the American constitution was not framed on the principal of responsible government as exemplified by the British Government or the Government of the British colonies. But still he is restricted by Congress, which has power to over-ride his measures and render his best intentions fruitless, should that body wish to do so. Therefore in the present state of affairs he will have to move warily and guard every action with the utmost circumspection if he wishes to make his administration a success and restore the country to the stable state it boasted when he was last in office.

It is true, in our opinion, that the recent revulsion in politics in Ohio and other states, and in New York also to a certain extent, was a rebuke to Mr. Cleveland and his party, because by their threats of so called tariff reform manufacturing establishments had been closed, thousands of employees thrown into idleness, and the commercial business of the country caused to crumble beneath their destroying hands. Those who dealt the Democratic party such staggering blows were men who were out of work, out of money, out of bread, and whose wives and little ones were in suffering and want. In Ohio and Massachusetts the results turned entirely upon the tariff question. We are no political friend of Mr. Cleveland, for if the platform of his party upon which he was elected were carried out, the disaster that has already appeared in the United States would have gone on to completeness, involving Canada, to a certain extent, in the ruin.

But although the Empire seems to think differently, Mr. Cleveland, as President, is not clothed with any legislative powers whatever. It is his duty to recommend laws for the consideration of Congress, and to enforce laws that have already been made, but he cannot make laws, and he would be very quickly impeached and removed from office if he should attempt to do so, or to do anything outside the constitutional sphere of his office. Therefore his declaration that he will not do anything which will be detrimental to the manufacturing interests of his country amounts to just nothing. If he had power to force legislation, why did the Senate hesitate so long in passing a Silver Bill? Mr. Cleveland's political friends in the House were numerous enough to rush a bill through in what might be called indecent haste; but the Empire thought that the hesitating of the Senate to accept that bill was indecent leisure. But Mr. Cleveland was powerless to expedite the measure, as much as he desired to see it rushed through. Therefore he is not in a position to carry out any of his so-called tariff reform ideas until such time as they may be made law by the concurrent legislation of both houses of Congress. It is ridiculous for the school boy editor of the Empire to declare that Mr. Cleveland is endowed with greater power than any potentate upon earth. Any ten-year-old pupil in any public school in Toronto knows that the President of the United States is restricted by law in the performance of his duties, and that there are many potentates who possess and wield absolute power, which Mr. Cleveland does not possess, nor could he possibly use. The school children of Toronto know, if the Empire does not, that Mr. Cleveland is responsible to the people who placed him in his high position: and they know that it is the members of the House of Representatives, who help make the laws, who must answer to their constituents for whatever they do, and not the President, whose duty it is to enforce the laws. The children also know that the President cannot put any of his measures into effect that have not the sanction of law, and, therefore, Congress never has occasion to over-ride anything that the President may do, unless it is a violation of the constitution or of some law which Congress has already made.

It is remarkable how glibly and ignorantly the Empire can discuss matters about which it knows absolutely nothing, judging by some of its expressions: and it is also remarkable how glibly and voluminously it keeps its mouth shut when it might reasonably be expected that it would say something—express some opinion regarding Canadian questions that are of the utmost importance, and upon which the Government have repeatedly said they would like to have light. Of the many burning questions now agitating the country we mention a few, which we suggest that the Empire discuss. We mention that feature of the tariff that imposes a duty of only \$2 per ton upon scrap iron; the duty of \$16 per ton upon refined sugar, while the McKinley tariff imposes a duty of only \$10; the duty of \$16 per ton upon wholesome raw sugar, quite good for domestic purposes, while under the McKinley tariff the article is duty free; the propriety of the Government encouraging the beet sugar industry similar to the way it is encouraged in the United States, this with special reference to the farming interests. If the Empire will discuss these questions, then we will ask for expressions of opinion in the matter of placing a duty upon steel rails, and of bonusing the home production of the article; of placing an export duty on nickel ore and