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It is proper that it should be distinctly understood that there is not one in twenty of the population of Canada favorable to the late changes proposed by the British Ministry in the Corn Laws and Tariff, so far as regards agricultural productions. These changes will do away altogether with any encouragement to production which this colony hitherto enjoyed, without granting any equivalent instead. It is absurd to pretend that any equivalent is granted to agriculturists for subjecting them to the competition of all the world, while they are still obliged to purchase almost every article they require, under the protection of heavy duties—no matter whether these duties are for revenue or not. If it is for general advantage that all should be allowed to buy where they can buy cheapest, why not do away at once with every restriction, and let taxes be raised directly upon the people? We will not admit the arbitrary principle, that one article is a more proper source of taxation or revenue than another, if free-trade is to be the established order of the day. There are countries that produce wine, and are not adapted to the production of corn and cattle. Wine forms the common drink of the working classes in these countries, and is sold at a very low rate. We make it a source of high taxation and revenue; indeed, to such an extent, that it can only be purchased by the wealthy, and is altogether prohibited to the working classes. The late changes in our laws will not be any encouragement to the wine-producing countries, or enable the people of Britain to exchange their products for this wine. If the principle of allowing countries freely to exchange their products with each other, be a good one, and we think it is,—if it is practicable, why not carry out the principle fully and fairly by the removal of all restrictions? Wine may not be considered a necessary of life for the poor, though it is by the rich. Tea and coffee are not actual necessaries but they are made so by cheapness and constant use. The wheel has been put in motion, and it will now be vain to attempt to stop it—a pressure from without will force on the principle of free trade in all other commodities as well as in the products of agriculture. Revenue may be neces-

sary, but it can now only be fairly raised by direct taxation. Farmers will require no protection, but they will require that they shall be enabled to purchase what they may want in a market of open competition, as they have to sell their products in a market of competition that will be open to the whole world. It is arbitrary and most unjust to say that certain articles required for our use, are more proper sources to collect revenue upon, than other articles. Let all other articles be free to our purchase, that we may have the means and inclination to buy, and revenue be collected from every man directly according to his means of paying. This will be free trade in reality, and be making things cheap and accessible to the poor, which they could never procure under our former laws. It will be giving the poor an opportunity of obtaining other necessaries at a cheap rate as well as the productions of the farmer. Let us have all things cheap as well as bread and meat, and we can better afford to pay direct taxes. Farmers deny that other classes have even been taxed for their benefit, and they are now willing to go into an open and free market of competition with all other classes and professions of their fellow subjects and desire; no more protection than any other class or profession, but they will not accept of less. The farmers of Canada have been taunted with their want of skill and energy as the cause of their being unable to compete with the farmers of the United States. This is a most unjust charge. There are many causes not understood that make the competition between this country and the United States very unequal. The people of the United States are disposed to move from one State to another, (we refer to the agricultural population,) and when they have run out, and rendered barren one farm, they desert it, and go to the West, take up new land, and while this land is able to yield a crop of wheat by the most slovely cultivation, they cultivate wheat; but when this also becomes exhausted, they desert it and go West and take up new fertile land, that requires no manure or careful cultivation, but will grow wheat, with the least possible labour expended upon it. It is a well known fact that whole tracts of land have been exhausted