

tection himself and has been exposed without defence to the competition not only of the "pauper labour" of Europe but of the more than pauper labour of Hindostan. At the last election the Republicans promised that they would give him Protection and they are now keeping their word. This, not a design against Canadian independence, is probably the explanation of the move; though it is true and has often been pointed out in answer to the charges brought by monopolists here against Commercial Unionists, that the extreme Annexationists in the United States are always opposed to Commercial Union.

Not the less would such a policy as the Report embodies be fraught with ruin to Canada, especially in the midst of an agricultural depression which among the farmers in the eastern parts of this Province amounts to positive distress. It is indeed difficult to see how we should be able to face the future. Justice will now perhaps be done by those who are capable of doing justice at all to the effort which the promoters of Commercial Union have sincerely made to secure to our people and especially to our farmers the benefit of Reciprocity without prejudice to the political question. That Commercial Union was an insidious attempt to bring about Annexation in disguise was a sheer calumny and now receives final confutation. Unhappily the confutation comes, if such a resolution as that of the Sub-Committee passes, in a form most disastrous to the country. If the Report is adopted, will our Protectionists rejoice, as in consistency they are bound to do, over the triumph of their beneficent principle in the policy of a great country?

Simultaneously, however, with the Report of the Sub-Committee of Ways and Means comes the unanimous adoption by the Committee on Foreign Affairs of Mr. Hitt's Resolution in favour of "such commercial arrangements as would result in the complete removal of all duties upon trade between Canada and the United States." That phrase is substituted for "Commercial Union" to which, though it was selected in contradistinction to political union, a sinister meaning of a political kind has by the enemies of improved trade relations been assidu-