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(FOR THE STANDARD)

Mr. Editor.—It may be affirmed, as a universal law in the economy of Providence, that nothing not morally right can be productive of results beneficial to man—or, in other words, can consist with his true interests, either individually or collectively. The real interest of man involves, as an end, the advancement of his own happiness—this is his object, his destiny. Were the means suited to the end, the end would be attained. The moment the individual separates his own from his neighbour's interest, and this taken in the largest sense, he seeks the end by means, through the medium of which its attainment becomes morally impossible—and this, because they contravene an established and irreversible law of the Divine government. This proposition has all the certainty of a mathematical axiom, although it may not be readily perceived. The want of appearances may arise from confounding the means with the end. The end is an intuition—the appropriate means a matter of judgment, about which different minds may differ.

The almost universal desire to accumulate wealth, without a due regard to the means of accomplishing it, is a species of insanity. The means employed defeat the end, which is happiness, and render the possession insecure. Universal experience demonstrates the folly of men in this particular, and proves the insanity. The uncertainty of wealth is proverbial—and this uncertainty is a direct result of the mode of obtaining it. The same means which one employs all employ, with a few exceptions; and these naturally create an almost universal antagonism between one man and another. He finds no guardian, no protector, in his fellow. All are in a state of conflict, and, at the same time, of isolation. His hand is against every man, to overreach and subvert, and every man's hand against his. The goods of Providence cease to be goods, when they cease to be diffusive, and they become dangerous to the possessor and the community, like the electric fluid, when it is garnered up, and its diffusibility obstructed. The spirit which actuates the individual actuates the collective body, and becomes more reckless by reason of a divided responsibility. In the framing of laws, he makes them subservient to what he supposes, though erroneously supposes, to be the interest of the individual, or the class, or the locality, without any regard to the general good. He wastes the public resources, and impedes public improvement, by going about to administer a pittance of partial aid at great expense, instead of providing a general magazine from which all may draw, without respect of persons. This is the character of the Protectionist. He demands a contribution from all, under the pretence that a few need it and cannot live without it, protesting, of course, that the interest of the contributors is involved in the demand. To reconcile the patient to the lotion, he is driven to the palpable absurdity of affirming that high duties make cheap goods; and the patient, thinks he must believe the doctor, although at the expense of his common sense. If there were fewer dolts in the world, there would be less empiricism of this kind. That all Protectionists are willful impostors it would not be charitable to affirm. The fact probably is, that most of them are either self-deceived, or deluded by others. Selfishness is blinded by the guinea over the eye, and the ophthalmia is so comfortable that it is seized without irrepressible desire of propagating it. The Nova Scotians are wiser than the New Brunswickers—at any rate, they won't eat bread, although much more agricultural than we are. They have doffed the long ears of the braying animal, which we continue to wear, as if there were nothing irrational in being an ass. There must be animals to ride, or the vocation of riders would be gone. There would be something redeeming in the process, if the riders themselves, in the end, gained anything, but they don't, and the common resources are, in the meantime, exhausted. Eventually, all are made poorer.

The people have so long leaned against the post of protection that they are afraid of falling, if they attempt to stand alone. Tariff-missionaries go about zealously propagating the faith, that the removal of the post would be fatal to the leaners—that, like bricks in a row, one would knock another down, and all would be prostrated. It is better to fall at once than to be always leaning—always bending to a fall. People would rise again, and depend upon their own native energies, and not upon their neighbours, to keep themselves up. They would find their motions freer, and their alarms fewer, and society would be relieved from at least one batch of evils that oppress it. Laws must have a moral as well as legal sanction, or they nullify themselves by reaction. It is well it is so, or the mischief of bad legislation would become intolerable. The people would be ridden to destruction, and often be grateful to their masters for the privilege.

Blackstone likens the smuggler to a party who

call for an entertainment at a Inn, and some steal away, and leave the rest to pay the bill. (The parallel would be more just, if revenue laws themselves were always just. The taint of the original wrong often redeems the evasion of them from the odium that would attach to the evasion of just laws. The moral sense is but slightly offended, if offended at all, at the evasion of injustice, albeit it be under the sanction of law. Every man ought to be a revenue officer, and right-thinking men would, if they could assure themselves that they would not thereby become abettors of oppression. It is idle to tell men the law must be obeyed, and, at the same time, provide them with a plea, in the character of the law itself, for not obeying it. He who asks justice should do it. When the State acknowledges this duty, and performs it, disobedience of its behests will become an opprobrium which few would dare disregard. Its commands would no longer be open to a suspicion of being prompted by unworthy motives, which often abates much from the respect due to good laws. As long as the fountain remains uncleaned, it is vain to expect purity in the streams.

F. S. A.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. Robert Owen has sent a letter to the Paris journals, announcing his desire to expound to the National Assembly his plans for securing at all times labour to the workmen.

Major-General McDonald, C. B., is not to proceed to Jamaica in command of the troops and, therefore, the appointment of Lieutenant-Governor has again become vacant.

The emigration from Scotland is greatly increasing. During the first six months of this year the emigrants sailing from the Clyde alone amounted to 5,165. Most of this number were from the western islands, and generally in easy circumstances, and their destinations, for the most part, Canada.

THE CHOLERA.—In St. Petersburg the fearful character assumed by the cholera has occasioned great consternation. The emperor has frequently personally visited the hospitals, where there are numerous cholera patients. The disease is said to be on the decline in the capital, but it has broken out in several places in the suburbs. The disease has broken out with severity among the Russian army warring at the Caucasus.

Letters from Riga state the Cholera had broken out there also; and down to the 16th inst. 200 cases had been known to have occurred.

On Monday a letter was received by the owners of the Marion, of Leigh, dated Elsinore, stating that the master, Captain Beal, had died of Cholera, on the voyage home from St. Petersburg, and that one of the crew was labouring under the disease.

Among the persons attacked by the cholera at Jassy are the Prince Stourdza and all his family. Letters from Moscow of the 3rd inst. announce that the cholera has begun to decline in that city. A letter from Königsberg of the 13th states that several inhabitants of the city had been attacked with a violent diarrhoea, bearing symptoms analogous to the cholera, and that some had died.

There are 2000 more seamen in the navy than provided for on the estimates; that number will accordingly be paid off as convenience or policy may dictate, in accordance with the recommendation of the late Cobden committee.

SALES OF SHIPS.—On Tuesday, at twelve o'clock, the sale of the remainder of the vessels belonging to the late eminent firm of Messrs. Barton, Irlam, and Higginson, took place at the office of Messrs. T. and H. Little and Co.—The well known Liverpool-built ship Cheshire was first put up. Her burthen per register is 377 tons; she carries 600 tons dead weight, sails remarkably fast, and is considered a very desirable ship for either the East or West India trade. She was put up at £1500, and the bidding gradually advanced, £100 at a time, to £2100, at which (being below the reserved price) she was bought in by the assignees.—The ship Frances was next put up. She is Liverpool built, and is A 1 to the end of 1851. She carries 620 tons dead weight, and is a well known vessel in both the East and West In-

dia trades. She was put up at £2000, and knocked down to Mr. Magee for £2600.—The barque Mary Ellen, 237 tons per register, was next submitted to the hammer. She is now on her passage home from Barbadoes, and daily expected. Put up at £1200, she was knocked down to James Poole and Co. for £1550.

THE ARMY.—The army in England and Scotland at the present moment consists of 14 regiments of cavalry, 7 battalions of the guards, and 22 regiments of infantry. In addition, there are four depot troops—stations of cavalry and 53 depot companies of cavalry. In Scotland alone there is but one regiment of cavalry, and two of infantry. It is supposed that the 62nd foot will shortly be ordered to Ireland. Other regiments are in readiness to depart should their services be required.

HALIFAX AND QUEBEC RAILWAY.

We abridge from the London *Daily News* of the 26th of July, the following notice of a meeting for the promotion of Colonization in connection with the Halifax and Quebec Railway.

A public meeting was held last night at the Mechanics' Institution, Chancery Lane, for the purpose of submitting to the public the plan of the Canadian Land and Railway Association, originated by the working classes for their own benefit, with a view to the improvement of their social condition. Lord Ashley, M. P., was in the Chair, supported by the Duke of Argyll, the Hon. A. Kincaid, Mr. Miles, M. P., Mr. Hodges, M. P., the Earl of Harrowby, &c.

Mr. Campbell, the Secretary, explained the objects which the promoters had in view were the purchase of large tracts of government land in New-Brunswick, and the formation of a railway from Halifax to Quebec, which would intersect the country to the extent of 600 miles, passing through a fertile country abounding in magnificent timber, with extensive coal-fields and other mineral properties, lying uncultivated and useless, thought now within the same distance from London, as to time, as Edinburgh and Dublin were in former days. Mr. R. Mills moved the first resolution which was as follows:

That under the heavy pressure of competition there is a large number of the working classes who cannot obtain employment—thousands who are but partially employed, and others overtoiled, but who cannot obtain for their labour a sufficiency of the necessities of life, and therefore they become in many instances, unwilling paupers—their children remain ignorant, vicious, criminal, dangerous to society, and subversive of its institutions. This meeting therefore declares its solemn conviction of the necessity of devising some means by which the working classes may obtain remuneration, employment for their skill, capital and labour, and under a well managed system of association, elevating their social condition, and thereby securing the peace and prosperity of the empire.

Mr. Rowland Wyman seconded the resolution, which was supported by the Duke of Argyll, who said it was a most difficult thing to get the working classes to associate together for their own benefit and improvement. He (the Duke) could say, that there were large numbers of the upper classes of society who were afraid to assist, fearful that the working classes might prematurely withdraw their money from the Savings Banks and lose it. He however did not fear that a well organized system of association to colonize would be of great service.

The Earl of Harrowby also supported the motion, which was carried. Several other motions in accordance were then passed, the proceedings closing with a resolution expressing the opinion of the meeting in favour of an association of working men, founded upon Royal Charter, to promote emigration and colonization.