

until they have sufficient land cleared to support themselves from their crops. The demand for timber causes them to clear up their lands quickly, and also preserve the pine. But when each saw-log, worth on an average about \$3 per M., has to bear a tax of \$1, it will hardly pay to cut and haul it to the nearest water, and so the timber is allowed to stand, or is burned to get it out of the road. The tendency of these export duties is undoubtedly adverse to settlement, and this argument alone would be a strong one against them, even if no other valid ones existed.

We hope Mr. Tilley, the Minister of Customs, will give this matter his earnest attention, and that when Parliament meets next month, something may be done to set matters straight. Last Session the objectionable tax on breadstuffs imposed during the previous year, and which was so strongly denounced by the people of the Maritime Provinces, was repealed. Here now is a case not less objectionable in principle, which we are inclined to think affects New Brunswick as well as Ontario, and the House could not do better than act upon the precedent of last Session. The policy of Canada ought not to be to put barriers in the way of our export trade. Such a course is suicidal, and our astonishment is, that Parliament ever was so foolish as to consent to do so.

### FREE TRADE IN THE THREE GREAT COMMERCIAL NATIONS.

THE advocates of a protective policy are just now greatly elated with certain vague indications of a reaction against free trade, in Manchester, the home and headquarters of this system. Trade has been dull in Manchester for some time, and certain manufacturers and merchants charge the prevailing dullness to the system of free trade. In France the same disposition is manifested. The new commercial treaty between that country and England, as might have been expected, has operated injuriously to certain weak manufactures, and the result was a movement in favor of its abrogation and a return to the old policy of protection.

At the present time when there are so many indications of a revival of free trade principles in the United States it is important to trace the real causes of the condition of affairs which has suggested this latest commercial heresy. The line of commercial development seems to be decidedly in the direction of free trade, and the removal of all restrictions on the interchange of commodities. Anything that seems to impede this movement or throw doubt upon it as a matter of special interest at the present time.

In the first place, then, it may be observed that the prevailing distress in Manchester is not caused by free trade. On the contrary, there is every indication that if it were not for free trade the existing evils would be greatly exasperated, and the prospects of improvement would be much more gloomy than they are. It is the same in France. The commercial blunders and the distrust that have operated prejudicially to certain interests, are fathered upon free trade, and by a certain false logic a case is made out in favor of protection.

Now, the distress in Manchester is due really to the increased cost in the raw material, and to the peculiar condition of the trade, which compels manufacturers to go on making comparatively cheap articles out of dear ones, to the increase of capital, which cannot just now be worked at a profit. A comparison of prices in 1853 and 1859 shows an increase of fully 50 per cent. in the cost of the raw material. The average price of the leading manufactured articles at the same period show a marked contrast.

The prices of 1859 range only from 10 to 20 per cent in excess of the quotations for the same class of goods in 1853. The consequence is that the returns of capital are not in proportion to its outlay. According to street free trade principles the capital should flow into other more profitable channels. But the conditions attending cotton manufacturers are peculiar. The capital invested is permanent and cannot be withdrawn. The vast buildings and complicated machinery must be worked on the best terms possible until relief comes in the shape of a supply of cheaper material, or in an increase in prices.

The Protectionists claim that the remedy for this condition of affairs is an artificial increase of prices by means of duties. But this is no remedy at all. A duty on the goods would be followed by an artificial increase of wages, and by still higher prices of the raw material that would only still more aggravate the trouble. Free trade, as carried out in Manchester successfully through the ordeal of the cotton famine, and it would be sheer madness to abandon this safe policy.

In France very nearly the same condition of affairs prevails. A few weak manufactures have been under-sold, but there is an enormous increase of commerce that shows unmistakably that the general wealth of the country has been largely increased. There is an immense increase in everything that France really has to sell. In wines and silk manufacturers for example the increase has been four fold in quantity and value in eight years the general exports and imports have more than doubled.

That this exchange of commodities is to the interest of the people of both France and England appears to be indisputable. Certain interests may suffer. For instance, the flourishing silk manufacturers in England have suffered, but not more than some branches of the iron and cotton trades in France. But the ease of exchange in both countries have been bene-

fitted. In both countries there is more employment at higher rates of wages, and a larger distribution of commodities at lower prices under the treaty, than there could be without it.

The fact, clearly established, and now getting to be more generally recognized and accepted, that the amount of protection is a tax that falls upon the consumers, is destined to work an industrial revolution in due time, and sweep away the restrictions upon commerce.

There is already a loud demand for a revenue in place of a protective tariff. This demand must increase. Even Boston begins to see that protection operates disastrously on commerce and industry. There is a general impatience at the existing tariff that must produce its due effect sooner or later. We do not anticipate any immediate effect from the new free trade movement that has been just inaugurated in our city. But it will be prepared to take advantage of the reaction that is certain to be the result of the extreme protection measures of the present Congress; and the sooner this reaction takes place the better for American industry.—*N. Y. Economist.*

### EMIGRATION AND EMPLOYMENT.

THE *London Times*, commenting on a letter from a correspondent upon the subject of emigration, says:—

"Perhaps the greatest field for the educated man in Australia is agriculture or stock-breeding on a large scale, and with all the appliances of modern knowledge; and there certainly is nothing in modern education which should prevent men from taking to this most healthy, agreeable and peculiarly safe of occupations. But it can well be imagined that to a large class of emigrants who have never been anything else but clerks and shopmen, and who have gone out to Australia to be clerks and shopmen, the idea of such a life would be utterly strange and perhaps repulsive. What they consider ill-dignified and monotonous would be dreadful to their imaginations, and they will prefer to lounge about the billiard rooms of Melbourne, earning a precarious livelihood in some ill-paid town employment, and consoling themselves by railing at the colony which offers no proper opening for their talents. Of course, there are men of a higher class than this who often meet with ill success, and these are the gentlemanly professional emigrants who expect to live by their profession, and to do only the things which a gentleman is accustomed to do in England. The most able of these make their way and attain to wealth and position even more rapidly than in England. But it is not difficult to understand why many, and perhaps the majority, are disappointed in their expectations. In a comparatively primitive society, callings and classes cannot be rigorously defined, and a man can hardly hope to attain to fortune by the pursuit of a strictly limited profession. His profession will no doubt bring him in something, and the education which it involves gives him a superiority which he can turn to account in many ways. But he cannot always live sitting in an office or a surgery, and waiting for fees."

The complaint above stated is doubtless in a measure true of all the colonies. But it is questionable if the evil of crowding the professions, and the lighter and more "gentle" employments of commerce and trade, in Canada, can be fairly charged to the educated emigrants, so much as to the native population. Our farmers, whenever they get reasonably well-to-do, foolishly send their sons to law, medicine, or trade—we do not complain of a surplus in divinity, though doubtless there are many poor Canadian preachers, and many Canadian preachers who are poor. The consequence is that clerks of all kinds are in superabundance, professional men by far too numerous for their own or their country's good, and the great industrial art of husbandry is neglected, or but meagrely recruited by the less pretentious classes from the Old World. In spite of our admitted want of more people, pauperism is growing in all our large cities, and the country lying waste for want of labour.

Nor are the farmers alone sufferers against the country's progress in this respect. In how many instances have good mechanics converted their sons, who could have profitably followed their fathers' calling, into very poor and unprofitable business or professional men? It is an excellent thing "to rise in the world" but it is a grievous misfortune to attempt to rise and end by falling lower than the point whence one starts; and this is in too many instances exemplified, because of the bad selection of the road to eminence. If the industrious mechanic has succeeded by honest industry in rising from nothing to an easy competence in old or middle life, should not every dictate of prudence suggest to him that the higher vantage ground he could give his son in the same business, would be the very best means of securing the prosperity of the latter? And wherein would the country be more likely to be successful than in the prosecution of the industry in the midst of which he has grown up, and in the art of which he is already educated, even before his muscles are strong enough to enter on his practice? We have spoken only of the sons; but we fear the misdirection in regard to the daughters is an equal or a greater evil. Is it too much to say that twenty or twenty-five per cent of the mental and muscular power of the country is utterly wasted?

We fear that some of the mischief is also due to what, in common phraseology, is called our "excellent educational system." Instead of educating our young people up to their station in life, we are struggling to educate them out of it. To any one who has reflected on the fact that the majority appears annually, or temporarily, made by well-meaning clergyman, or other patrons of education, to the ambition of a hot blooded and voracious lad in their teens, or under, there can be very little in this remark to excite surprise. The boys in our common schools are not told to look forward to the time when they shall be excellent mechanics, in-

dustrious tradesmen, or enterprising farmers. They are not referred to the numerous examples, which almost every township in the country furnishes, of the success of the intelligent, educated, practical farmer, an example worthy of their emulation, and on which they might readily excel by the constant increasing application of science to every industrial pursuit, husbandry included. They are not advised to study the usefulness to society of a knowledge of the mechanical arts and handicrafts, or the liberality with which society rewards the skilled and faithful workman. Scarcely, indeed, do they hear that the combination of manual and intellectual labour, well directed, gives the highest and most complete exercise of the human faculties, and the surest foundation for that independence of social position for which every one should be encouraged to strive, and which, in this country at least, nearly every one, by well directed energy, may attain. Oh, no! Their dreams of fun and frolic, and holiday enjoyment, are broken in on by the magniloquent assurance that they are to be the great men of a few years hence; that they are to wield the destinies of the country, which is to become a mighty empire, &c. &c. That from their ranks our judges, our statesmen, our lawyers, our mighty men in literature, are to be drawn—and in the exuberance of his good nature, this inflamer of wild and baseless hopes in the breasts of comparatively thoughtless boys will even venture the sage prediction that there may be now, before him, a boy who will yet rise to be the greatest man of his country!

All such twaddle is certainly well intentioned. "It will please the boys; it will encourage them to go on with their studies." It pleases them doubtless; and perhaps it encourages them to study; but does it direct their studies in the right channel? Does it not inspire them, rather, to aim at prizes utterly beyond the reach of all but a very few? and those few, in all likelihood, just such boys as would not waste a second thought on such dreams.

The following paragraph not inaptly illustrates the wants of the country in one respect.

"There is said to be employment for 835 persons in Victoria county. Of these there are wanted 410 as farm labourers, 20 as female servants, blacksmiths, 10, carpenters 25, bricklayers and stone masons, 27, shoemakers, 14."

Now, who was ever encouraged by school visitors, or even schoolmasters, to become a farm labourer, or a blacksmith, or a carpenter?

Victoria is a new country, and may not yet have sent many into the professions. But we doubt not that some of the older counties have turned out more broken down merchants, briefless barristers and unsuccessful practitioners and speculators, than would have supplied all the male labourers that Victoria requires; and any large city in Canada could spare the requisite number of the other sex, and be all the better for the riddance.

If boys could be persuaded that in no field could the excellent education which they may acquire and which many of them do acquire, in Canada, be more profitably employed by them than in that with which experience has already more or less familiarised them, it would be a great blessing for themselves and the country at large. We need never fear that genius will be unduly repressed by inculcating such doctrine, but we might hope that such facilities as have been bestowed upon the young would stand a far better chance of healthy and profitable development.—*Ottawa Times.*

### THE SUGAR TRADE OF 1859.

THE *Produce Market Review* of the 6th inst. estimates the total deliveries of sugar in the principal markets of Europe and America during the past year at 1,324,460 tons. To this it adds 200,000 tons for the consumption of beet-root sugar on the continent; the consumption of the Pacific States of the American Union 18,000 tons, the deliveries, including the total export in the minor Atlantic ports of the United States, 133,000 tons, the consumption of maple sugar in Canada and the United States, 39,000 tons, the deliveries of molasses in the United States, 99,000 tons. Adding the consumption of molasses in England and the difference between the official exports and consumption of raw sugar in the United Kingdom and in the return of imports at page 68, or 25,000 tons, &c., adding 70,000 tons for the consumption of Spain, Portugal, Gibraltar, Malta, and the consumption of English treacle in the German Union with other minor matters—we arrive at a total consumption of sugar in Europe and North America, during 1859 of 2,231,000. Adding 70,000 tons for the non-producing British Colonies, and 30,000 tons for the consumption of temperate South America, we have a total consumption for Europe, the United States, the non-producing British Colonies, and temperate South America, of 2,331,000 tons of sugar. From this amount we must deduct the exports of beet sugar from France and Germany to other places given in the table, or say 40,000 tons, which reduces the consumption of Europe and North America during 1859 to 2,291,000 tons. We made a similar estimate in Vol. I, page 661 in a different form, where we estimated the sugar deliveries of 1857 at 2,650,000 tons. Adding 100,000 tons to the American consumption for molasses and the Pacific States, which we did not then compile, we find a total of 2,150,000 tons. This, however, is not our actual increase, but is due simply to taking the actual deliveries from the great sugar markets, both for consumption and for export, and not estimating the consumption of each country separately—in fact, in taking more accurate returns than estimates, which latter were before the only means possible for getting at the statistics. The total deliveries appear, as far as we can gather, to have really increased, about 100,000 tons, or, say four per cent. over 1857.

As a check on these estimates the *Review* publishes the following table, showing the actual deliveries of