

DEAR SIR :

At the last meeting of our Association, a pledge in the following words was presented for the consideration of the members :—"The subscribers, desirous of aiding the cause of Liberty and Equal Rights in the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, by every legitimate means, and believing that the greatest obstacle to the Independence of the Canadas arises from the interest of that small portion of the English People who derive a direct profit from the monopoly of the Colonial Trade, hereby **PLEDGE THEMSELVES TO EACH OTHER, AND TO THE REFORMERS OF CANADA, to abstain as far as possible, both personally and in their families, from the further use or purchase of goods which are the product or manufacture of Great Britain or her dependencies, until the question of Colonial dependence, or a dissolution of the Union with Great Britain is submitted to the PEOPLE, of the Canadas, or their freedom is achieved by their own exertions.**"

The reasons for believing that the general circulation of a pledge of this nature and its publication simultaneously throughout the country, with the signatures of thousands, would be attended with the most beneficial results to the good cause of Liberty, Equal Rights, and Brotherly Love, were stated and enforced by several members in the course of an animated discussion. They are briefly these :—1st. That the classes in England most hostile to the interests of Canada, are the Manufacturers and Merchants, who accumulate vast profits from that iniquitous and oppressive system by which the energies and faculties of the Colonies are kept down and rendered subservient to the pride, and the pomp, and power of Great Britain.—2nd. That the consumption of British products and manufactures in that portion of the United States adjacent to the northern frontier which sympathizes most deeply with the Canadian Patriots, is at least equal, and probably superior, to the consumption in the two Canadas; and that by entering into the above pledge throughout that section of our country, we can at least neutralize, if not overbalance, the profits resulting to England from her trade with Canada.—3rd. The above pledge commends itself to that large portion of our fellow-citizens who, though without special zeal for our cause, feel a warm interest in the support of American manufactures and American industry; and it will tend to enlist their good feelings in favor of the Canadians, particularly in the manufacturing States where we have now but little countenance or support.—4th. Simultaneous action will tend to produce a panic and alarm in the manufacturing districts of England, over and above that which would be caused by a falling off in the orders from America. The probable result will be a discharge of large numbers of operatives who will be clamorous for a dissolution of the connection with Canada, as the means of being able to earn their daily bread. If such a result followed the cessation of orders from America during the commercial revulsion of 1837, to a degree which first opened the eyes of the English People to the importance of our trade—which turned loose multitudes of the operatives of Birmingham and Manchester in a state of starvation, and compelled the Chancellor of the Exchequer to bewail the deficit in the revenue in Parliament, how much greater effect may we reasonably hope to obtain from the active and public hostility to British commerce and manufactures of thousands of freemen in New-York, Ohio, Michigan, and Vermont ?—5th. Though the measure should not be followed by those beneficial results which we anticipate to the Patriot cause, it will still have been of signal utility in elevating the true dignity of our own country, in giving its due reward to American ingenuity and industry, and in diminishing the resources of our great rival. It will aid much to exalt American labor to its true position, and to cultivate habits of economy among our people.

Impressed by these considerations, our Association came to an unanimous resolution to enter with spirit upon the execution of the plan: the pledge was immediately signed by all the members present, and the officers of the Association were directed to enter into correspondence with our brethren of other Associations.

In the discharge of that duty, we now address you to solicit your co-operation, and to request you to lay the matter before your brethren at

The method we propose, is this :—Let the pledge be circulated first among the members of each Association; and when their signatures have been procured, let a number of suitable persons be appointed to procure as many subscriptions as possible from the public at large. We think we can procure two thousand names in Monroe County.

When the pledge has been signed by as many as can be induced to do so, let it be published in the nearest newspaper, with the names of all the signers. Let this be done every where, on the 15th day of January next, or as soon as possible thereafter, so that the news may go to Europe simultaneously by the first Packet. Let public Societies for the non-consumption of British goods be formed upon the same plan as the Temperance Associations.

As an auxiliary measure, let the manufacturers of the vicinity be requested to retail their goods at the lowest wholesale prices, so as to bring the retail price of American goods into direct competition with the wholesale price of British merchandize. The manufacturer will find his reward in the increased and increasing demand.

Finally, if entered upon at all, let the system be prosecuted with vigor, with union, and concert. Let the pledge be conscientiously observed, as our ancestors observed their pledge against the use of Tea, and let us persevere till the end is accomplished.

We take the liberty of requesting you, in case the plan meets your approbation, to forward to our address a copy of the newspaper containing the pledge and signatures from your vicinity.

We are, very respectfully,  
Your Friends and Fellow-Patriots,

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9. 5u V. 9L6. V. 945  
-V. 941 V. 9L. 11*

*This circular & its object must be kept strictly secret,  
spread to the public, as only Mr. Ryan can get  
an opportunity to know it*