

MR. LOWTHER ON FAIR TRADE

For some months past the Fair Trade champions in England have had the effect of crushing out the Fair Trade movement, which is steadily making progress...

"Attempts are being made to represent this movement as a desire to advance the interests of the agricultural community. Although the agricultural interest, being as it is, the greatest interest of the country, has been fatally affected by the present one-sided system of so-called Free Trade, it is by no means the only interest, or even the interest mainly affected by the present state of things. (Cheers.)"

...some thirty millions annually. To show the amount of even a large proportion of it, on the general taxation of the country would not only try the ingenuity of our Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the advice which I will venture to tender to him to have recourse to a system of indirect taxation as a means for providing funds necessary to meet these local burdens...

A NECESSARY WARNING

Under the beneficent operation of the National Policy our various manufacturing interests are spreading and prospering as they never did before in Canada. Old industries are expanding far beyond the cramped, cribbed, and confined limits of former times, while every week we hear of the starting of new ones, before unknown in this "wooden country."

slot which he poses, and talks as if it had been expected to conquer. The gist of his speech is the fact that certain cotton fabrics pay, not merely an ad valorem duty, but also so much per square yard. These specific duties are really the most valuable and important portions of the whole tariff...

AMERICAN IMPORTATIONS OF DRY GOODS MANUFACTURES

The last number of the American Protectionist contains an interesting statement showing the value of the leading articles of dry goods imported during the years 1880 and 1881, the object being to show that notwithstanding the rapid development of the industries of the United States under a protective tariff the foreign exporter has still in that country an extensive market for his productions:

Table with columns for Year, Value, and Drawback. Categories include Manufactures of Wool, Manufactures of Cotton, Manufactures of Silk, Manufactures of Flax, and Miscellaneous.

The above figures represent a falling off in the value of the importations of 1881 when compared with those of 1880 of about \$11,000,000. Commenting on this state of affairs the Protectionist considers it a subject for congratulation, as it shows the growing ability of the mills and manufactories of the United States to meet the demands of the country.

the home manufacturer to suffer as the result. Before that the money spent in developing the industries of the country—which means the sustenance of thousands of families and the general circulation of a large portion of the money earned—should go out of the country into the pocket of the foreigner to enrich him and to enable him to support those in his employment, and to add to the general wealth of the foreign community.

CANADA'S SUGAR IMPORTATIONS

From the Quarterly Report of the Chief of the Bureau of Statistics, United States Treasury Department, we gather some interesting facts connected with the exportation of refined sugar, made from imported sugar, to Canada during the years ending 30th June, 1870, 1880, and 1881 respectively.

Table with columns for Quantity, Value, and Drawback. Data for years 1870, 1880, and 1881.

Real between the lines the great diminution in the quantity of sugar exported to Canada from the United States means this—that whereas under the policy of the late Government Canadian sugar refineries were closed and those who were employed in them were obliged to seek a living in a foreign country, under the National Policy, inaugurated by the present Government, a happy change has taken place.

THE PRICE OF COAL

The story has been told that once upon a time that British Solomon, King James the First, propounded a puzzle to the scientific heads of the Royal Society in something like the following terms: Suppose a tub of water on one side of a pair of scales, with a weight that exactly balances it on the other. If now a dead fish be thrown into the tub that scale immediately goes down, because of so much weight added. But if it be a live fish that is thrown in it will swim about, and, as the fish carries its own weight, it adds nothing to the weight of the tub, but the scales remain evenly balanced as before.

coal combination was not a new order, and when each company was fighting for its own hand, the hero of whom we have read in the combination has since been constructed, and that it is now working clockwork, so to speak, in a certain and we propose to go back to that period when it was in a state of anarchy of operation. We have a period of five years—1872 to 1876—inclusive—during which there was no duty on coal, and we have the retail prices for hard and soft coal respectively. The figures are taken from the Globe's commercial report from dealers' advertisements on page 1.

Table with columns for Date and Price. Data for years 1872, 1874, 1875, and 1876.

It will be in order now to consider the coal duties as they are under our National Policy to say what we think of these figures, in comparison with the present Toronto prices of \$2 and \$5.50 for hard and soft coal respectively. "Oh! coal is so dear as compared with the National Policy." But we reply, it is actually dearer before, on the average five years quite recently, when there was no duty at all, and how do we account for that? The suggestion is that the American companies would pay the duty in order to retain their trade, but we assert it never less than that Canadian wholesale buyers actually get the sixty cents on soft coal deducted from the amount of the invoice, and that the American companies do really pay the duty. This is a well understood among the traders, it will not be disputed, but it is asserted, by those who ought to know that practically Canadian buyers, east and west, get the duty allowed on hard coal too, in their dealings with the Pennsylvania companies. Be that as may, however, it is clearly shown during a recent five years' period, when there was no duty, coal was dearer than at present. And yet the cry keeps up—'Oh! it is because coal is so dear.'

SUPPRESSION OF THE LAND LEAGUE

A cable despatch announces that the Land League has been proclaimed a dangerous and criminal organization, and that all its members will be dispersed with force. Consequently, all its leaders are liable to be arrested at any time. This is a bold stroke on the part of the Government, and it is suggestive of the fight inaugurated by the arrest of Parnell to be carried on to the bitter end. The hands of the Government are strengthened by Archbishop Crooke's denunciation of the League's latest manifesto, calling upon the people to pay no rent. His Grace, as those who have watched the progress of public events in Ireland know has been one of the strongest friends of the League, has had in Ireland, his outspoken statements on at least one occasion brought him into conflict with the Most Rev. McCann, Archbishop of Dublin, who since the commencement of the agitation has been the uncompromising opponent of the communistic doctrine taught by many of the League's more violent agitators. The action of the Government will be the subject of severe criticism in some quarters, but matters had reached a stage that it became necessary to assert the supremacy of constitutional authority, which was rapidly being ground in presence of the self-appointed power of a despotism which was rapidly gaining power in the disaffected portions of Ireland. It is to be hoped that although Mr. Parnell is a declared illegal, Irish tenant farmers will, regardless of intimidation, take the possible advantage of the provisions of the Land Act.

The use of the American word "caucus" is becoming common in London, and the London newspapers are puzzled over its derivation. It is said to come from "caulkers' meetings," held by Boston shipyard employees in revolutionary times. All conferences were soon called "caulkers," and the term became "caucus."