

But it is strange that while their organ is so staunch and faithful in upholding the integrity of its country, and so quick to resent any imputation affecting the attachment of its patrons to the stability of its country's institutions and autonomy, it can talk as flippantly as it does regarding Canada, seeming to think that this country is for sale, and that the price of it is a mess of pottage known as annexation to the United States. We do not know, but can imagine the source of the information from which *The Manufacturer* forms its erroneous conclusions regarding Canada. Almost every assertion it makes is wrong. While it is true Canada owes allegiance to Great Britain, it does so through choice alone; for if she desired to throw off that allegiance to morrow the act could be done without bloodshed or trouble. Neither is Canada controlled by the Mother country, and this fact is seen in the exercise of the right by Canada to make her own laws, including a tariff that imposes as high duties against British goods as against the goods of any other country. With a territory even larger than that of the United States, and in many respects of superior value, Canada is not poor. A great element of the strength of the American people lies in the Anglo-Saxon blood that courses in their veins, but the blood that gives life to Canadians is purer and richer in that element than that of Americans, at least twenty per cent. of whom are negroes. Canada is not weak, for, having within herself all the elements of national strength, that strength is being used most judiciously to develop her resources and place her on as high a plain as that occupied by any nation on earth. Her population is growing, and there are but few disturbing elements in it tending to retard its growth. Canada is not threatened with an unsolved negro question, a Mormon question, nor a Chinese question such as now agitates the United States; and Canadians are not "swarming" across our southern border. On the other hand the deluded Canadians who were induced to migrate to the Dakotas and other Western States are swarming away from the blizzards and desolations that have made beggars of them. Canada's domestic market is not gorged with her own produce, making it imperative that her commerce to be successful shall move southward into the United States. Mr. Blaine seems to think, however, that the American market is gorged and congested to a most painful extent, hence his efforts to open South American markets.

The Manufacturer takes a most curious position, considering the fact of its being an advocate of tariff protection, in saying that Canada would grow rich and strong if her commerce with the United States were "untrammelled by tariffs." If Canada's commerce could be made "rich and strong" by free trade why would not free trade be equally good for the United States?

The fact is, if *The Manufacturer* is a fair reflex of public sentiment in the United States, the American people are jealous of the growing importance of Canada, and are averse to seeing "an affluent and powerful empire" built up along their northern border; the only way to prevent which is by annexation. But Canada does not desire to be annexed to the United States. She desires to work out a different destiny, and she will do it. It is not the disposition of Anglo-Saxons to be driven and coerced with impunity. Canada would be

pleased to maintain pleasant and agreeable trade relations with the United States, but she will not sacrifice her identity to that end. If the American people can divest themselves of the idea that their destiny is to absorb Canada: if they can reconcile themselves to the inevitable, and recognize the fact that Canada will never adopt the Stars and Stripes as her national emblem, then there will be hope for pleasant trade relations between the two countries. But they can rest assured that although McKinley bills may be brought to bear on Canada, and hostile legislation be enforced against her, Canada, like the Spartan youth, will suffer disembowelment before she will whine and beg for annexation. Anglo-Saxon Canadians are not of that stamp.

THE HOG QUESTION.

DURING the recent political canvas Mr. George Matthews, who operates a large pork packing establishment at Lindsay, Ont., in an address to the farmers of the County of Peterborough, explaining how unrestricted reciprocity would affect the hog raising industry, showed that he had during this season purchased 20,000 hogs from Canadian farmers at an average cost of \$5.75 per 100 pounds, the average dressed weight being 160 pounds. At this price for hogs the long clear bacon cost him \$7.50 per 100 pounds. Said Mr. Matthews:

"To-day I can buy long clear bacon fully cured in Chicago at \$4.50 per 100 pounds, which is \$3 less than mine cost me made from Canadian hogs, so that if we had unrestricted reciprocity, I could bring here from Chicago the same quantity of bacon, hams, lard, etc., that I made from the 20,000 hogs, for \$80,000 less money than I have actually paid Canadian farmers for their hogs. To be able to make long clear bacon and cure it for \$4.80 per 100 pounds (which is \$4.50 cost and 30 cents freight added), we could not pay over \$3.25 per cwt. for dressed hogs here, which would be \$2.50 per cwt. less than I paid this season, and on 20,000 hogs, weighing 3,200,000 pounds, a total of \$80,000 less than our farmers received for those hogs. The other pork packers of Ontario are in the same position as myself."

It is evident from this testimony that as far as the Canadian farmers' hog interest is concerned, unrestricted reciprocity would cost him an average of \$4 each upon every hog he raised. The Ontario Bureau of Industries in November last gives the number of hogs in this province at 1,140,559, which, valued at \$8 each, made the total value \$9,124,472. This average value of all the hogs in Ontario approximates quite closely to what Mr. Matthews paid for what he bought, and if under unrestricted reciprocity the farmers from whom he bought 20,000 hogs would stand to lose \$80,000, the farmers of Ontario would stand to lose about \$4,000,000. This would be paying very dearly for the privilege of selling hogs in the American market.

The importation of hogs and hog products into Canada from the United States is of immense proportions. During 1890 these importations were as follows:

Pork in barrels....	Pounds, 17,161,592....	Value, \$830,015
Bacon, hams, etc....	" 4,344,200....	" 323,513
Smoked meats....	" 1,020,652....	" 108,137
Lard.....	" 4,882,831....	" 301,028
Total.....	" 27,409,275....	" \$1,562,693