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TORONTO, CAN., FRIDAY, OCT. 28, 1892.

THE SITUATION.

Sir John Lubbock advises Canada to lower her tariff, on general principles. The advice may be good, but its acceptance may not be easy. For better for worse, Canada has stimulated manufactures by means of a high tariff; she has, in doing so, gone to an extent which it would be hard to justify. But she would find sudden retreat even more difficult, not to say disastrous, than to submit for a while to exactions which ought never to have been imposed. Canada is paying nearly two millions of dollars a week in wages, largely under the influence of a hot-bed system of forcing manufactures. To bring those all at once into trouble would raise up social and financial questions of the most serious character. It is easier to desecrate the evils of a high tariff than to supply a sudden and complete remedy, such as would meet the views of Sir John Lubbock.

A cow, said to have come from Canada, was slaughtered in Fifeshire, Scotland, after being nearly a fortnight in the country, and declared to have been suffering from pleuro-pneumonia. Doubts have arisen as to whether the animal came from Canada, and whether the disease is pleuro-pneumonia. As Canada is, and has for years been free from this disease, it has been suggested that she probably came from the United States. But if, as alleged, her landing can be traced to Dundee, it ought to be possible to find where she came from. On the supposition that she came from Canada, the reasonable conclusion would be that the disease cannot be of the fatal nature alleged; and doubts upon the point arise while the cow was under consideration. For the cattle on two farms where she had been, after being ordered to be slaughtered were spared. Dr. McEachran, of Montreal, whose expert knowledge is generally correct in such cases, is of opinion that the disease is a form of pneumonia.

known in Canada, distinct from pleuro-pneumonia. The English graziers and their organs seize upon every incident how ever trivial that can possibly tend to strengthen their objection to the importation of live cattle; but the authorities who have to decide each case as it comes up, have always acted in a perfectly fair and impartial manner. The latest story is that the existence of pleuro-pneumonia in Canadian cattle landed at Dundee is confirmed.

What was always to be feared in connection with the Columbian Exhibition, a scarcity of accommodation for visitors, now threatens, in the light of the test afforded by the formal opening, to become a serious reality. Without any outside pressure, the domestic throng which witnessed the opening ceremonies took up all the hotel and boarding house space available for visitors, and the complaints of poor accommodation, producing real discomfort, were not few, some of them coming from distinguished American visitors, who went in an official capacity. Doubtless the test showing what Chicago did, on an emergency which was to last but a short time, is not the measure of what the city is capable of doing at its best. Many persons would be found to set up boarding houses for an entertainment that is to last several months, who would not deem it worth while to do so for the profits of a few days' accommodation. But the point is one to which the people of Chicago need to give serious attention; for, if when the exhibition opens in earnest, accommodation for visitors is found to be poor and dear, thousands of Europeans who would otherwise go will remain away. It is probable that room for all comers will be found. But more than this is necessary; in order to attract the largest possible number of visitors, the cost of staying in Chicago must be about the same as it would be in a European city, for equivalent accommodation. Unless this can be arranged, the exhibition will not have the success which it is otherwise capable of commanding, in point of numbers.

Whether Uganda will be abandoned by the British is still matter of doubt. Even if the East Africa Company should cease to exist, the determination of British occupation would not necessarily follow. If the Jingo stood alone, they would have no chance of prevailing with the Gladstone cabinet, but they are reinforced by the friends of African missions, who are numerous and powerful. Mr. Stanley says there are thousands of Christian converts in Uganda, who, on the withdrawal of the British, would be liable to be massacred, and on this ground the Archbishop of Canterbury vigorously protests against withdrawal. The Government regards extension of empire as a source of weakness and a danger to be avoided, and it cannot be said that this view is merely chimerical. The East African Company has liabilities which the Government is not likely to assume, and if it goes under, the occupation must either be abandoned or be assumed directly by the Government. This ques-

tion may put a great strain on the Government, in whatever way its resolution may be effected. Apparently the East African Company has come to the end of its tether, and the simple question is likely to be whether the Government will directly assume the continuance of the occupation. All its inclinations lead it in the opposite direction. But can it abandon the converts to Christianity, whom a large number of people believe it is bound to protect? Missionaries, it is said, will henceforth go to Uganda at their own risk.

A story comes from Ottawa that a French Canadian journalist got Sir John Thompson into a room and convinced him that the census of French Canadians in Nova Scotia and Manitoba is all wrong. But how does the journalist know that he is right? The materials of his criticism comprise three factors, the census of 1881, that of 1891, and in Manitoba a census taken in 1885. But assuming that the former is correct, as to Nova Scotia, that of 1891 must be wrong. But we have no guarantee that the census of 1881 correctly gave the number of French Canadians; and in fact it is much more likely to be wrong than that of 1891. Under the method of census taking in vogue at the former date, French Canadians who had left the country were liable to be counted as part of the families from which they had departed, and it is probable that many were so counted. The extraordinary census of Manitoba, taken in 1885, may be equally misleading. This counting of the lost became impossible in 1891, when the actual number of persons in each house, at a given date, was taken. And, besides, we are told that where Roman Catholics are shown by the new census to have increased, the conclusion follows that they are French Canadians. But if the census of 1891 be inaccurate, in respect of nationality, it is a violent conclusion to assume that it is correct on the score of religion; that these people truly stated their religion and their nationality falsely. Sir John Thompson is reported to have suspended the printing of the census, in consequence of the representations of the French journalist. If this be true, what is the next step? Is a new census, in whole or in part, to be taken? In what other way could the facts disputed be placed beyond doubt?

A cable despatch reports the existence of a rumor in London, to the effect that it is not improbable that the Imperial troops will be withdrawn altogether from Canada and the Cape, and that these dependencies will have to furnish their own garrisons. An event is stated as not improbable, on the authority of "him" the statement, in this form, is wanting in every guarantee for accuracy. The rumor may nevertheless contain a germ of truth; if true at all, it would indicate a return to the policy of the Manchester school, which received a partial development several years ago. But until the statement takes a definite form, no great importance need be attached to it. Of late, the trend of Imperial politics has not been conspicuously, if at all, in this direction; nothing has happened to lead to