

the fisheries as an indemnification. *How could you support an army, and a navy, and a diplomacy, and make fortifications? Why, you couldn't build, and support one frigate, nor maintain one regiment, nor garrison Quebec itself, let alone the outposts.* Our folks would navigate the St. Lawrence in spite of your teeth, and the St. John's too, and how could you help yourselves? They'd smuggle you out of your eye-teeth, and swear that you never had any. Our fur traders would attack your fur traders, and drive them all in. Our people would enter here and settle; then kick up a row, call for American volunteers, declare themselves independent, and ask admission into the Union; and afore you know'd where you were, you would find yourselves one of the States. Jist look at what's going on in Texas, and what *has* gone on in Florida, and what will go on here. We shall own clean away up to the North and South Pole afore we've done."

May thy words live unforgotten, oh, thou most illustrious of all Clockmakers! for thou hast spoken like the wisest and keenest of thy sagacious nation. Relinquishing the further consideration of protection, let us look at the advantageous commercial position which we occupy as a British Colony. Millions upon millions of English manufactures annually are landed on the American Continent, to supply the necessities of a young community. Where the Canadian receives these products of European industry at a mere nominal duty, the citizen of the States commonly obtains them burdened with the exorbitant duties of an unprecedentedly extravagant tariff; where we pay 2½ per cent. impost, our neighbours disburse 20 or 30. The carriage across the Atlantic and the profit of the retailer, form almost the only difference in the price of articles purchased in Canada or in Sheffield. The policy of the American Union is to protect her own vastly inferior manufactures by imposing almost prohibitory duties on English productions, which, if admitted at any thing approaching a low rate, would at once drive out of the markets the ill-fashioned workmanship of the infant factories of New England. But this patriotic protection of home productions weighs most heavily on the impoverished consumer, and we would almost feel inclined to doubt whether the Massachusetts farmer, when purchasing a piece of English broadcloth, and knowing that he is paying some 30 per cent. more than his northern neighbours, would not wish destruction to the grinding tariff, even should its abolition involve the decline and fall of the great

factory whose chimnies were visible from his door, poisoning the pure air with smoky exhalations, and demoralizing the surrounding population.

But not merely in the advantage of receiving British manufactures at a cheap and easy rate, is the Canadian remarkable. His connection with England gives him a never-failing market for every production of his fertile lands. His timber floats down the lakes and rivers to the shipping at Quebec, to be transported across the Atlantic, and received into London and Liverpool at a light duty, while the nearer and in some respects superior wood of the Swedish and Norwegian forests is taxed at a heavy rate, for the express purpose of protecting the Canada trade. While a high duty on all foreign grain protects the labours of the Rutland or Suffolk corn-growers, the hardy Backwoodsman's distant clearing is not forgotten by the parental Legislature of England; a low *fixed* tax on the Canadian's wheat and flour renders him always certain of a ready market for the millions of bushels his unrivalled grain-fields can be brought to produce. Divest him of his character of a British Colonist, and three great and immediate evils must in any event befall him. His timber trade would be almost annihilated, the instant the Baltic duties were lowered. His wheat placed on the same footing as foreign nations, could not be sent to English Ports and sold for any thing like a remunerating price; and lastly, those necessities of life, British manufactures, must at once rise rapidly in price, as the expenses of his Government, no longer defrayed from a British Treasury, would be only raised by obtaining an adequate revenue from taxation of imports.

All the elements of wealth and true greatness lie scattered in profusion around the Canadian Colonists. Living under a climate of unexampled salubrity,—possessed of a boundless extent of the best wheat-land in the world,—surrounded by a chain of splendid waters,—strangers almost to taxation,—ignorant alike of military despotism or civil oppression,—locally governed by their own chosen representatives,—and above all, *enjoying complete protection without paying for it*,—it surely will be strange if a destiny of some splendour does not await a country situated as theirs, if a conspicuous part in the great drama of the future be not assigned to her.

The speculator in changes can only contem-