

surplus is England, and consequently the Americans are dependent upon Great Britain and would have to pay the duty, if one were imposed, in order to obtain admission to the British market in competition with the productions of India, Canada, and Australia. The following table of American exports (1890) will show how dependent her people are upon Great Britain for a sale of their products:

| Exports to—    |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                | Great Britain. | All Countries. |
| Wheat .....    | \$ 26,807,092  | \$38,506,571   |
| Wheat flour... | 29,451,909     | 50,240,470     |
| Corn .....     | 20,328,966     | 35,962,450     |
| Cattle .....   | 24,612,513     | 25,673,366     |
| Canned beef..  | 4,737,713      | 6,026,970      |
| Fresh beef.... | 12,949,290     | 13,002,713     |
| Cured beef.... | 2,490,281      | 3,899,735      |
| Tallow .....   | 2,055,770      | 4,717,229      |
| Bacon .....    | 31,310,405     | 36,320,774     |
| Hams .....     | 5,064,943      | 5,990,570      |
| Pork .....     | 1,129,481      | 5,010,767      |
| Lard .....     | 10,805,650     | 30,422,370     |
| Totals .....   | \$171,794,082  | \$225,773,985  |

If the farmers of the States refused to pay the duty, the competition of the Colonies sending their products in free would prevent the Americans from selling at all: leave their products to rot in their barns—or elect a President and Congress who would offer Britain and Canada better terms for mutual trade.

But without dealing at further length with this wide and far-reaching subject, I will summarize a few of the matters which come more or less under the heading of Imperial Federation, and the settlement of which will form a part of the final evolution of a completed policy.

1. The abrogation of all treaties interfering in any way with the domestic affairs of the British Empire, or imposing limitations upon its internal trade.

2. An Imperial penny post, or at any rate, a cheaper system than that now existing.

3. The adoption throughout the self-governing portion of the Empire, of identical laws upon such subjects as patents, copyrights, marriage, etc.

4. The fixing of some general standard for the conferring of university degrees, and the similar recognition of professional qualifications.

5. The development of some careful scheme by which a portion of the people of England now living 311 persons to the square mile, may be removed to Canada or Australia, where only one person to the square mile at present exists.

6. The imposition of a small duty by Great Britain upon foreign goods in return for a distinct preference, in all Colonial and Indian markets.

7. A contribution granted by each self-governing portion of the Empire towards its naval defence in return for the above trade discrimination and for a certain share in moulding the foreign policy of the British Realm.

8. The establishment of fast steamship lines, notably between Canada and Australia and England, together with a cable system which will unite the whole empire in close electric communication.

9. The holding of Imperial Conferences at not very long intervals for the discussion of these various problems and their presentation to the Parliaments of the Empire, with a view to the solution of the question along the lines of gradual growth.

10. Evolution not revolution, or a steady growth towards closer union, not a sudden straining of the present constitutional structure. The probable development of these Imperial Consultation Conferences into some form of an Imperial Legislative Council.

These few and fragmentary thoughts upon Imperial Federation are merely presented for consideration as being a basis for the possible discussion of a subject, which is infinitely too great to be dealt with properly in the confines of any magazine article.