



JEW AS MERCHANTS.

Messrs. THE MACLEAY PUBLISHING CO.

DEAR SIRs, There are a number of good trade papers or journals published in Canada, but only one that can rightly claim to represent its dry goods interests and that is *THE REVIEW*. There is millions of dollars invested in the dry goods business of the Dominion, and among those engaged in it are thousands of the brainiest, ablest men in our country. You will find these same men in the Councils of our Boards of Trade, on our bank directorates, in all corporations and councils where ability, capacity, power and talent are needed. Think, then, for a moment, what the journal should be that claims to represent these men and their interests before the public. It must be edited by competent, learned men, who will allow nothing to appear upon its pages that would malign or defame anyone. It must be published conscientiously, honorably, and command the respect and esteem of all.

I have taken great interest in *THE REVIEW* at all times, and have derived pleasure in watching its steady improvement and ever-increasing claim to be classed as the representative dry goods paper. Judge, then, of my regret on reading the article in your April issue under the heading of "Jews as Merchants." It was so unjust, so false, so unlike *THE REVIEW*, that I was at a loss to know how you ever allowed anything so scurrilous to find a place in its columns.

From your editorial in May issue, under the same heading, I now know that the first intimation you had of such an article having been written was after its publication. Your explanation, that it was published without your knowledge or consent and simply expressed the opinion of a "gentleman of standing in the trade" frees you personally from any blame. There can be but one opinion of the man who would malign a race by classing them as the "opposite of honest" because of some trifling losses he has made in his business. I would like to introduce him to some of the Jews we have in Montreal, men whose word is their bond, who would not utter a falsehood, be guilty of a wrong action, do a mean thing, or allow the thought of wrong doing to remain one moment in their minds.

No other defence of the Jewish race is necessary than that made by Geo. R. Wendling, when, speaking of what the world owes to the Jews and to their honesty, he said.

"There is not a drop of Jewish blood in my veins; I am not connected with the Jews by the marriage of any near or distant kinsman; I owe no Jew a dollar, and no Jew owes me. I speak from the vantage ground of absolute independence.

It is a splendid race; splendid in their patience, in their love for one another, in their endurance, in their sagacity and temperate habits, and splendid in their inflexible adherence to their Mosaic ideals.

Do you want an aristocracy of blood and birth? The Jews are the purest blooded people and have the best established descent in the world. Not Mirabeau in the French convention, nor Patrick Henry in the House of Burgesses, nor "Sam." Adams in the old Colonial days, ever said a more thrilling thing

than Disraeli said in the English House of Commons, in reply to the charge that he was a Jew: "Yes, I am a Jew! When the ancestors of the honorable gentlemen were brutal savages in an unknown island, mine were priests in the Temple!"

Do you seek an aristocracy of talent? The great church historian, Neander, was a Jew; Napoleon's marshals, Soult and Massena, were Jews; the brilliant and cynical Heine was a Jew, and—but the world's roll of great soldiers, authors, musicians, painters, poets, philosophers and financiers contain more Hebrew names than I could recite in many hours. Are you looking for an aristocracy of wealth? The combined financial power of the Jews in Europe can prevent the floating of almost any national loan that may be put upon the markets of the world!

It is a spurious, false Christianity that hates Jews. The mystery of the Incarnation found expression in the flesh and blood of a Jew, and therefore, in a sense, we worship a Jew.

We got our ten commandments—the very foundation of our civilization—through the Jews. We sing Jewish psalms, are uplifted by the passion and the poetry of Jewish prophets, and rely on Jewish biographies for the only history we have of Christ. We get our Pauline theology from a Jew, and we catch our clearest glimpses of the next world through the sublime apocalyptic vision of a Jew. Then, forsooth, we Christians turn about and sneer at the Jews.

I have conversed with teachers of philosophy who spoke slightly of the Jews, and yet were teaching with enthusiasm ideas which they had absorbed from Miamonides and Spinoza, the two greatest philosophers, omitting Kent, since Plato's day—both of them Jews.

I have heard musicians denounce Jews and then spend days and nights trying to interpret the beauties of Rossini, Meyerbeer and Mendelssohn—all Jews.

Aspiring politicians, when beyond the reach of the reporter's pencil, sneer at Jews, and yet it was a Jew who made England's Queen Empress of India.

The brainiest man in the Southern States Confederacy was Judah P. Benjamin, a Jew.

That you never see a Jew tramp or a Jew drunkard is a proverb; that you never meet a Jew beggar is a commonplace, and it is a statistical fact that there are relatively fewer inmates of our hospitals, gaols and workhouses furnished by the Jews than any other race contributes.

Convert the Jews! Let us first convert our modern Christians to genuine Christianity. Suppress the Jews! A score of Russian Czars cannot do it. Every people on earth have tried it and failed. They have outlived the Tudors and the Plantagenets, the Romanoffs, the tyranny of Spain, the dynasties of France, Charlemagne, Constantine, the Caesars, the Babylonian Kings and the Egyptian Pharaohs.

It was God's own race for four thousand years, and the awful persecution it has survived for two thousand more stamps it as a race still bearing some mysterious relation to the plans of the Eternal.

The beauty and fidelity of the Jewish women command my homage, and among wealthy and educated Jews the exquisite refinement of Jewesses, their culture and high breeding, blended with a sort of Oriental grace and dignity put them among the most charming women in the world.

But the Jew is tricky! Is he? Were you ever taken in by a Methodist class leader on a real estate trade? Did you ever