

—exerted at the polls—exerted without concerted arrangement of any kind—exerted individually and according to the best judgement of each individual who exerted a portion of it. The result of that influence was apparent when Mr. George H. Bertram was declared elected to represent the constituency of Centre Toronto as their member in the House of Commons, at Ottawa. Mr. Bertram declared upon the hustings of Centre Toronto with reference to the tariff that "there is not a single article in these schedules that I did not go over and send to the Government my opinion of what the duty should be." The Mail and Empire took occasion to express its august dissatisfaction with the tariff that emanated from Mr. Bertram's consultations with the Government. Unfortunately, The Mail and Empire's tariff arguments are not always unimpeachably sound, and the Canadian Manufacturers' Association cannot always see eye to eye with its peculiarly narrow views.

Mr. Bertram declared his personal connection with a tariff that The Mail and Empire condemns. A little reflection would lead any intelligent person to the conclusion, that while there are unsatisfactory clauses in the new tariff, yet, as a whole, the tariff may be generally considered as fairly satisfactory. Mr. Bertram's sound position, as declared by himself during his campaign, satisfied the manufacturers of Centre Toronto that their interests would be safe in Mr. Bertram's hands. Any political proclivities they may have had were laid aside in favor of the necessities of business and the certainty that Mr. Bertram's practical business knowledge would lead him to practical lines of action.

The business men of this country should be glad that a business man has had an influence on the tariff legislation of the Laurier Government. The business men of Toronto took the opportunity to put Mr. Bertram in a position where he can still more have the ear of the Government. Business men supported a business man and business principles. Mr. Bertram was not a member of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, but his principles were such that the gentlemen of that Association felt themselves safe in supporting him. What more argument is needed to prove that the Association is not in any sense subservient, as has been charged against it, to the Conservative party?

There never was one atom of truth in one of the hundred assertions that the Canadian Manufacturers' Association was a political organization, much less, that it ever attempted any corrupt political dealing. Surely it was nothing contravening usage, or contravening political purity or individual honesty if the Government of Sir John Macdonald chose to accept from it or from any member or members of it exactly the same office that Mr. Bertram boasted of having rendered the Laurier Cabinet in their tariff revision. The Canadian Manufacturers' Association exists for purely business reasons. Just now it rejoices that the recent tariff changes were not largely inimical to the manufacturing interests. It desires by every legitimate method to foster Canadian industry. It desires to further the movement towards preferential trade. It opposes any move in the direction of commercial alliance with Washington, and its members, and this journal will be always found to the forefront in the battle for the best interests of Canada in the settlement of the many important questions just now arising, and which will need the honest help of every honest

man to decide in the manner best suited to advance the best interests of the Dominion of Canada—the younger Britain, where the shamrock, the thistle, the lily and the rose are all blended together, and where will arise a nation that shall uphold the historic fame of the Mother Land in peace, and if needs must be, in times of war.

STOP EXPORTING SAW LOGS.

The timber policy of the Ontario Government is just now under discussion in the Legislature of the province. The supporters of the Hardy-Ross administration have come forward with calculations of all kinds. They have told the House that the supply of pine timber in Ontario will last 152 years. They have also displayed remarkable consideration for the interests of the lumbermen of Michigan who are accustomed to supply their own sawmills with logs they cut in limits in the Georgian Bay district, where they hold thousands of miles of timber limits from the Ontario Government. The Opposition have been scarcely so considerate as the gentlemen of the ministerial benches, and some statements made on the floor of the House were of a nature to make the ears of sundry American lumbermen tingle.

The trade and navigation returns for 1893-4 show that the export of Ontario saw logs for the year ending June 30, 1894, amounted to 312,340,000 feet. On this the province lost about \$2 per thousand, or \$624,680 which was expended in wages to the benefit of American workingmen. Mr. Whitney spoke stongly on this question. Following are excerpts from his speech:—

If the Government were working in the interests of the people of Ontario they would agree with him when he said that this should not be lost by the people of Ontario. It is the duty of this Government, and of every person in authority and possessing influence, to bring it to bear upon the Government, so that restrictions should be put upon the exportation of saw logs, so that the people of Ontario may have the advantage of what is left. The members of the Opposition have advocated this policy for a long series of years, and only three or four years ago had brought the question before the House. He did not propose personally to explain any statement he had made in reference to this question, but any statement he had made he was prepared to stand by. It is the duty of the Government, he repeated, to do something to save the remaining saw logs of the country for the people of Ontario. Deputation after deputation had waited upon the Government, and urged upon them to do this, but they had failed to act, and to-day they would give no inkling of what they intend to do.

The Attorney-General seems to fear legal difficulties. He, at any rate, made many demurrers to the hasty enactment of such legislation as the province generally seems to desire: legislation to conserve to Ontario every dollar she can right fully put into the pockets of those toilers whose sweat is the indication of that labor to which the province owes every step of its progress. Mr. Whitney has taken occasion to warn Mr. Hardy, that unless he took immediate action along the line of stopping the export of round timber, he would make a mistake, and a fatal mistake. Should Mr. Hardy decide to take action, Mr. Whitney will have the credit of being first to take that position. Listen to what we may expect if Mr. Whitney should become premier at the next general election for Ontario. These are Mr. Whitney's own words on the floor of the Legislature, on Dec. 2nd. He said:—