

"ENCOURAGE HOME MANUFACTURES!"

HOW often do these words strike the eye! In flashy bills and splay advertisements, how frequently does "Encourage Home Manufactures" form the most conspicuous line? And yet, how few of those who read them feel that they have either interest or duty in sustaining our Provincial manufactures. This should not be so. Some philosopher has said that he who causes two blades of grass to grow where one grew before, is his country's benefactor. In like manner we regard every man who begins any branch of manufactures, however humble, which can be successfully carried on in Canada; and we hold that he has a claim upon the public support which foreign manufacturers have not, and that whenever he furnishes an article as good and as cheap as that imported, that article should invariably have the preference. "Encourage Home Manufactures" ought not to be—as it too often is—a barren appeal. It ought to meet a cheerful response from the community whenever the manufacturer shows the necessary energy and enterprise to supply the public wants.

We do not intend to enter into a discussion of the mysteries of political economy, but we lay down the broad proposition—that it is the duty of our Government, and of the people individually, to sustain and foster our manufacturing industry in every legitimate manner. It may be true that Canada is essentially an agricultural country. But it is equally true that the sparkling waters of our splendid lakes and rivers—coupled with abundance of raw material—afford unusual facilities for manufacturing; and if we display Anglo-Saxon enterprise and spirit—it we desire to become a great nation—we must avail ourselves of the manufacturing facilities which Nature has bequeathed us, as well as of the wealth of our fair fields and fertile valleys. History would probably have lost the glorious record of Great Britain but for her manufacturing industry, which has rendered her "mistress of the seas," and the workshop of the world. If we desire to strive after similar national wealth and influence, whilst not neglectful of agriculture, let us stimulate and promote that important interest which has been one of the chief sources of Britain's prosperity.

Ten or twelve years ago the manufactures of Canada were very trifling, both as regards extent and importance. But few branches were engaged in, and most of those were in a very sickly condition. About the year 1835, in consequence of the rather lavish expenditure of the Government of the day, the Provincial revenue had to be increased. The finance minister wisely adjusted the tariff so as to encourage our infant manufactures—and what has been the result? Already nearly all parts of Canada resound with the busy hum of manufacturing industry! Formerly the commonest articles in use were imported—thus annually sending large sums of money out of the country. Now we make wholly, or in part, our agricultural and other machinery, our edge tools, our woollens, cottons and linens, our leather, boots and shoes, india-rubbers goods, wooden ware, glass ware, oils, ropes, musical instruments, and many other articles of necessity or luxury. Many of these departments of trade are but partially developed, but most of them are progressing steadily, and promise to become highly prosperous. The number of skilled workmen and the amount of capital engaged in these pursuits has become large, and is annually swelling and increasing. The rapid progress made of late years in manufacturing must be very gratifying to every friend of Canada, and should incline all classes to "encourage Home Manufactures" more strongly than ever.

That it is the "interest and duty" of the community to give a preference to home-made articles, must appear from a moment's consideration. It is the duty of every patriotic citizen to aid in every lawful manner to build up the power and wealth of the state, and in encouraging Home Manufactures, he takes one of the best means to accomplish that end. But in matters of business, interest weighs with people generally more than duty, and right sure are we that the hundreds of manufactories now dotting the face of Canada promote the interests of all classes of our population. They assist in decreasing the drain of gold from the country each year to pay for importations—they attract large numbers of skilled workmen from all parts of the world to swell the number of good citizens they largely assist us in paying the demands of the public creditor, and they afford a home market for much that our farmers raise both of raw products and of the necessities of life. These advantages cannot be too highly valued. They lie at the root of national prosperity.

What nation has become truly great and powerful in modern ages without manufactures? The lesson is plain. To "encourage Home Manufactures" is at once our interest and our duty.

The termination of the Reciprocity Treaty, and the opposition of the Americans to its renewal, must show every sensible Canadian the folly of Canada relying solely upon agriculture. No country should rely for its prosperity on a single interest, however important. When this is the case an injury to that interest seriously affects all the branches of trade. Thus might the loss of Reciprocal trade have produced a crisis in Canada but for the extraordinary high prices which the civil war has produced in the United States, and the home market which our manufactures have provided us. But under present circumstances, the loss of the Treaty will be less seriously felt. Did we manufacture all the articles we import at present, we would be comparatively speaking—independent of our American neighbours. The loss of Reciprocity would not be the bugbear it is at present. We would have achieved true national independence. We would have the "balance of trade" in our favour, and would consume most of our agricultural productions among our own population.

But how, the reader may ask, are we to "encourage Home Manufactures"? We reply: by the Government arranging our fiscal policy—at least so long as they have a large revenue to raise—so as to encourage those branches of manufactures already existing, and the establishment of new ones. As individuals we should give Home Manufactures the preference. Let our ladies not disdain to look at Canadian cottons, Canadian hosiery, flannels, cloths, &c.; let our gents cease to worship broadcloth, and feel proud to wear Canadian tweeds! How often is it that our articles of Canadian make—equal in quality and price to any in the market—is passed over for an imported one? This is most unjust, most unwise, and he only is a true friend to his country that adopts a different policy, and "encourages Home Manufactures."

Still Another.

A few weeks ago we drew attention to the "Substantial Progress" of Canadian manufactures, and remarked that it was only when an attempt was made to enumerate their number, extent and variety, that any adequate idea could be formed of them. We are constantly reminded of the truth of this, and almost every day we hear with satisfaction of the establishment or the existence of new manufactures in all parts of the country, the progress and prospects of which are not sufficiently known outside of their own locality. As an instance of this, we may mention the Hamilton Glass Works, a manufactory which for some time has been in successful operation. Some seventy-three persons are constantly employed, and the product amounts to about \$5,000 per month. A great variety of articles in green and flint glass are turned out, and in such perfection, and at such a price, as effectually to shut out foreign importation. Messrs. Rutherford & Co., the proprietors, deserve the greatest credit for their enterprise, and we are glad to know that they are meeting with success quite encouraging.

Freights.

Rates for the Fall season, up till now, have been very poor, nor have we even had any temporary excitement on the arrival of English mails advising a slight advance in prices, which has usually been the case in other seasons. Lifelessness has characterised the market all through, and this is not to be wondered at, when we consider the quantity of wheat and corn that have found their way to the other side of the line, the relative prices of flour here and at home, and the depressed state of the Quebec Freight Market.

On account of the low rates for grain and the difficulty of getting freight, one or two vessels have gone to Quebec to load, one has accepted a charter from Three Rivers to Cardenas at 35 cents shoeks and 60 cents for sails,—port charges paid,—and another proceeded to Three Rivers to load sleepers for London at 27s. 6d. per load. Some charterers and owners are still hanging on, slow to make the first loss, but heedless of the heavier one that assuredly awaits them by reason of their delay.

The rates by steam to Liverpool and Glasgow are quoted at 6s Grain, 30s Pot Ashes, 40s Pearl Ashes, and 50s provisions, but we expect a less rate could be done for grain, as the last Glasgow steamer loaded on ship's account. By sail 4s is nominally the rate, but we believe 3s 9d was done to Glasgow, and from all appearances lower rates must be looked for before the close of the navigation.

THE UNITED STATES DEBT.

THE following is the official statement of the debt of the United States up to end of October, compared with the statement for September:—

	1865.	Oct. 30.	Sept. 30.
Debt bearing coin interest.....	\$1,161,137,691.00	\$1,116,638,191.00	
Interest thereon.....	67,670,310 00	65,001,670 00	
Debt bearing lawful money interest....	1,191,819,787.00	1,260,009,120 00	
Interest thereon....	71,267,738.00	72,627,646.00	
Debt bearing no interest.....	386,623,359 00	366,891,096 00	
Total debt.....	\$2,710,859,769.86	\$2,744,947,726.17	

The following table exhibits the rapid growth of the Debt for the year ending with July last, when its increase was arrested, and its actual diminution since that period:—

	Principal.	Interest.
June 21, 1864.....	\$1,729,686,263.00	\$71,737,416.00
July 5.....	1,792,867,040 00	73,425,240 00
July 12.....	1,795,033,569 00	73,762,564 00
July 18.....	1,796,368,868.00	73,853,017 00
July 26.....	1,806,623,594.00	76,660,629.00
August 2.....	1,837,492,170 31	79,418,394 01
August 9.....	1,833,049,835 60	74,371,669 07
August 17.....	1,849,914,556 49	76,093,175 66
August 23.....	1,859,294,874.00	76,000,069.00
August 30.....	1,878,665,233 90	77,417,122 63
September 30.....	1,855,953,716 46	81,773,613 12
October 31.....	2,017,069,515.75	83,313,693 63
March 31, 1865.....	2,369,965,077.34	102,734,581.18
May 31.....	2,535,205,763 50	124,683,874 02
July 31.....	2,757,253,275 86	139,252,468 28
August 31.....	2,767,689,671 43	139,031,628 24
September 30.....	2,744,017,726.17	137,623,216.25
October 30.....	2,740,854,758 86	135,983,078 50

It will be seen that although the Government has been disbursing millions in payment of arrears due to soldiers and sailors mustered out of service—they have actually reduced the aggregate principal of the National Debt more than Sixteen Millions of Dollars within the last two months. No doubt, the sales of gunboats, steam and sail transports, and other public property purchased for use in the war, and no longer required, has materially contributed to this result; but they have meantime paid out two dollars in discharge of anterior obligations to soldiers, sailors, contractors, &c., for every dollar received, from these closing-out sales. It is certain, therefore, that they have passed the turning-point, and may henceforth steadily reduce their vast debt, if they but keep out of foreign complications and wars.

It will be seen however that thus far the interest has not been diminished, but rather increased, by the liquidation of indebtedness which formerly paid no interest with obligations whereon interest is accruing. We presume this conversion will have to be carried further, so that, while the principal of the debt will be still further diminished, the interest thereon may be somewhat increased.

Resumed Business.

We have great pleasure in directing the attention of the Grocery Trade to the announcement in another column of the resumption of business by Messrs. Henry Chapman & Co. The numerous friends of this house and the trade generally will be gratified at this result, and we are certain that the firm as now constituted will merit the same confidence and esteem which for so many years was so deservedly enjoyed by the previous one.

Bankers and Brokers at New York.

We direct particular attention to the card of Messrs. Adams, Kimball & Moore, Bankers and Brokers, New York. The members of the firm have been well known residents of Toronto for some years, and they enjoy the confidence and esteem of a very large circle of friends, including some of the wealthiest capitalists of that city. Personally we can speak in the strongest terms of their reliability and capacity, and as they command an abundant capital they are entitled to a liberal support.

Retail Trade in Quebec and Ottawa.

It is estimated that about five hundred families have left Quebec with the Government. If each family spent \$1000 a year, and the average would not be below that figure, the loss to the retail trade of Quebec will be equal to half a million of dollars. It is thought however that the loss of this custom will fall to a great extent on the larger and stronger class of retailers who are better able to stand it. On the other hand, the traders of Ottawa, being fewer in number, will be largely benefitted, and a general condition of activity and prospective prosperity is evident there.