

it was founded. Let any man compare the England of the eighteenth century with the same country to-day, and say what has been the cause of all this unexampled prosperity. In 1768 she was absolute mistress of North America; achieved the conquest of India; annihilated the commercial rivalry of Holland; was mistress of the trade of the civilized world, and yet obliged to sacrifice her wide possessions on this Continent, because her fiscal necessities compelled the levying of a tax so insignificant in amount that Canada would not feel the pressure of voting the whole as a single subsidy. English commercial law prescribed conditions injurious to trade; confined the traffic of the Empire in a few hands; dictated the channels through which it should pass; prevented its expansion by differential and preferential duties, and by the consequent high prices, debarred the consumer from the benefits of a plentifully supplied market, while it restricted the energy of the producer by limiting the demand.

The whole science of political economy is founded on precedents the applicability of which to commercial principles are easily understood, thus there are in reality but two parties to any commercial transaction—the producer and consumer—the mere manufacturer is but an incident of the position whose services are simply required to enhance the value of the article produced, and towards whose profit and maintenance the consumer must pay.

Now it is evident that the manufacturer is the last party to whom protection should be given for this reason that he lives on the profits derived from the necessities of others—the producer lives on the profits of his toil, what he sells is the value of his actual labour, and an equal amount of labour must be expended by the consumer before he can realize the amount of the others toil.

Yet the United States has actually accomplished the strange feat of saying to the producer you shall only sell in one market, and to the consumer you shall only buy in the same by protecting the manufacturer—take their provision trade as an example—the Western States produce a large amount of surplus breadstuffs, as much, some say, as *ten million tons* of wheat and corn with other cereals in abundance. Now to any other people the thought of throwing open their ports to the vessels of all nations to come and export the necessary supply, and by increasing the demand, create a necessity for improved modes of tillage, more machinery, extending settlement, and all the development due to other interests would have occurred.

But the New York forwarder, Buffalo and Rochester millers had to be considered, and thus the products of the increasing thousands of the west, and the demands of the hungry millions of Europe were sacrificed to build up colossal fortunes for a few people.

The Eastern States manufacturers are

consequently non-producers. About *five-eighths* of some *three millions* tons of wheat transmitted by the very imperfect lines of communication in the States reaches there. The other *three-eighths* are absorbed by Canadian means of transit—the balance is never brought off the field, but fed to cattle, while large quantities of corn share a similar fate.

Can people hope to be prosperous who thus knowingly fetter the feet of commerce. The action of those gentlemen in Congress will at once answer no. Nothing can save the States from inevitable collapse, but such an adjustment of their fiscal affairs as will permit as near as possible a return to "Free Trade" principles.

Reciprocity with Canada may be very desirable for them, but it is by no means a necessity for the people of the Dominion—while the treaty lasted it was serviceable in developing external trade, although the country was fearfully cheated by its provisions; having been abrogated the commerce of Canada sought and obtained new channels free from the restrictions of the treaty, it obtained an elasticity and development which it would have been years in achieving under it. Consequently neither the people nor mercantile interests are at all anxious for its re-establishment except on a "Free Trade" footing—experience having taught them two things that their trade prospers best, when not hampered by treaties, especially those negotiated under Legislative enactments, and that its true interests are thoroughly served without Parliamentary interference or proscriptions of any kind. A Mr. Bearman has introduced what the people of the States call a "Bill to secure Reciprocal trade" into the House of Representatives. It is not necessary to review the various clauses of the measure, but the only equivalent given for the free use of our internal waters would be the right to navigate Lake Michigan. There is no need to bring up measures of this kind—the right to navigate this Lake will be conceded without making any sacrifice—simply from the fact that commerce centreing on its shores has entirely outgrown the means of the United States to dispose of. Whenever therefore that power thinks proper to abolish "coasting laws"; when it becomes her interest to remove all restrictions from her commerce and allow her manufacturers to provide their own protection in a legitimate manner, it will be the interest and desire of Canada to open her internal waters, but not before.

We would like to know the names of the Volunteers and employers referred to in the following which we find in the *Glenallen Maple Leaf*:

"MEAN.—Two of the Crosshill Volunteers have been turned out of their situations on account of having been absent a week at New Hamburg, at drill."

Nothing would give us greater pleasure than to give the persons who could deprive Volunteers of their situations for such a reason, and under the present circumstances of the country, a slight token of our attention.

THE THIRTEENTH.

The following from the *Hamilton Spectator*, in reference to this now historic corps, is not only gratifying to its members, but will, we trust, produce a spirit of emulation in every battalion of the Volunteer force throughout Canada:

"We are glad to learn that the Government have recognized the efficiency of the Thirteenth Battalion, by a special grant of \$150 to it. This act on the part of the Government is a graceful recognition of the efficiency of this fine body of men. It is unquestionably one of the best, if not the very best drilled battalion in the Dominion. The testimony of all inspecting officers has been to this effect. In thus practically taking notice of the efficiency of the Volunteers, the Government have acted a wise part. There has been an unfortunate impression on the part of many of the officers and men that their exertions to maintain an efficient defensive force in the country are not appreciated as they deserve to be. Such acts as this grant of \$150 is calculated to remove this impression; and in this way to do a great deal of good; and the government have therefore not simply recognized the efficiency of the battalion, but they have shown that earnest and patriotic effort on the part of volunteers, will not be permitted to go unrewarded."

FENIANS.

It would appear that our neighbors over the line have at last been aroused to a sense of their duty with relation to those scoundrels, which dignify their cut-throat association with the name of "Fenians"—an organization as dissimilar as the aboriginal Hibernian of the second century before the Christian era, and the hybrid *Patlanders* of the present day. The reported seizure of *eight tons of arms and war material* argues well for the good faith of the Government of the United States, and very badly for its internal municipal organization. How a set of ruffians could be allowed to collect such an amount of warlike stores without question is marvellous, and evidences little regard being paid by the municipal authorities to the preservation of the peace of their several districts. What object beyond plunder those fellows could have in view would be hard to determine; but the whole movement is so supremely ridiculous and impracticable that, it would only occur to the minds of lunatics. No soldier would have attempted operations across an impassible river, the navigation of which he did not control, consequently amongst this rabble there is no man who should be called by that name,—brave, fearless and reckless scamps they may be, but not soldiers. Those threats of invasion serve to irritate the people of Canada without producing any other result, and if persisted in will entail an awkward reckoning.