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WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 8, 1887.

The Brawling Brood of Boodlers.

There is no longer any doubt that foreign boodle has been playing a more or less important part in Canadian affairs for months past. Its influence was first felt at the opening of the late Dominion campaign, when a prominent member of the Toronto Reform Club stated that "we (they) have more money in our campaign fund than we will be able to expend in legitimate expenses." He probably did not know where the boodle had come from, but there be those who did and do know.

The free trade crusade was not carried on in this country without the aid of boodle.

The Riel agitation was not galvanized and kept alive until it received its death blow at the general elections without the assistance of boodle.

The secessionist agitation in Nova Scotia was promoted by foreign boodle in the hands of men who did not even take the trouble to transmute their greenbacks into currency of the realm before paying over the paper promised for votes.

The present agitation in favor of the adoption of a foreign tariff much higher than our own is not being sustained by the voluntary subscriptions of Canadians. All the expenses thereof, legitimate and otherwise, come from without—from those who are interested in the capture of Canada's markets, the deterioration of Canadian industries, and the control of Canada's future.

"The brawling brood of bribers" failed of their comparatively petty purpose, and there is every reason to hope and believe that the incomparably more dangerous and more audacious scheme of the brawling brood of boodlers—the noisy few who speak in their own tones the words of others—will likewise be prostrated.

Taking the Bull by the Horns.

The Dominion's iron policy of this year throws the London Standard into a fever of excitement; and that organ of Toryism and Free Trade together makes fierce protest against Canadians and all their works. It hits us what no doubt it considers a "stunner" when it says that the new iron duties are Canada's Jubilee gift to the Mother Country. This unwelcome change (to England) practically illustrates the conception which our statesmen have of Imperial Federation. If the new tariff be persevered in, then, instead of drawing together, the Colony and the Mother Country must drift further apart, until one day complete severance takes place. Ours is a brutally selfish creed, it is charged. The success of the United States' misleads the colonial democracies everywhere. The colonial democracies ignore the fact that but for English capital protection would never have been even a qualified success in the United States. The glamor of seeming success there (in the States) blinds the Canadian democracy to the curse it (protection) lives under—a system which can only bring disaster. Unfathomable indeed, it is added, are the depths of human stupidity. These are the selected strong passages which the cable gives us from the Standard's violent article of Monday on the Canadian iron duties.

The Standard presumes a good deal when, at this time of day, it speaks of the gigantic and undeniable success of protection in the United States as only "seeming." "Seems, madam; nay, but is," and that most conspicuously—we have to remark to Granny Standard. If you cannot see it, then we may despair of getting you to see the sun shining in the heavens. A number of years ago the United States commenced making steel rails under shelter of a protective duty of $25 per net ton ($28 per ton gross), which in 1883 was reduced to $17 per ton net, which is still a good protective figure, we should say. Among the results we note these—that last year the American output of Bessemer steel rails was somewhat in excess of the English output, while the capacity of the American works is now equal to twice the country's consumption per annum. During these years the American price has fallen from over $100 per ton to something under $40, to which it has come now, which is not bad for the consumer, we should say. This is no mere "seeming" success, but the real article.

As for English capital lent to Americans, that was mostly invested in railways designed to carry manufactured articles west and the produce of the soil east; and not much of it, comparatively, in America's protected manufactures. But supposing it to have been invested even very largely in the latter, what would that prove? This, chiefly, we should say—that a policy of high protection creates good investments for capital in the protected country, as well as good employment for labor.

"Why should we," says the Standard, "waste a drop of blood or spend a shilling to shelter countries whose selfishness is so great that they never give a thought to any interest but their own?" This and what it says besides about our "jubilee gifts" and our conception of Imperial Federation bring us to the point now at issue between Canada and the free trade Tories of England, who no doubt regret most sincerely that ever the colonies were allowed to make their own tariffs, and to indulge in dreams of commercial independence. Canadians must take the bull by the horns ere long; and the sooner the better, we should say.

The ground taken by Canada will unquestionably have to be that which we outlined recently in these columns, which we may thus briefly state again. Let us have no indefinite, happy-go-lucky continuation of the old notion that the Mother Country is to defend us in time of war, in return for which we are to have no ambition of manufacturing for ourselves, but are to remain content as farmers and lumbermen, drawing our supplies of goods from England, or from the United States. Any such arrangement, or supposition of the same, we utterly repudiate. In that Canada would be kept bleeding to death at every pore, and would never know what tribute she was paying and what it was that was killing her.

We prefer rather to have it settled what Canada's contribution towards the defence of the Empire, in both men and money, are to be. Let us have first a clear understanding, then let every Canadian do his part like a little man. For a vague notion of the olden time, and now out of date, we want to substitute something definite, and stick to it. And we want particularly to begin with having put to our credit the value of the Canadian Pacific Railway as an addition to Britain's means of defence in time of war.

Corner Lot Farmers.

The Montreal Witness asserts that the tariff has made "their (the farmers') clothes and groceries from twenty-five to thirty per cent. dearer" than they were in 1878. No evidence, statistical for otherwise, is given in support of this assertion, which we brand as a deliberate falsification of patent facts. Some lines of groceries and of clothing are cheaper in Canada to-day than they ever were before, while the comparative average is highly favorable to present prices. The Witness should be more conscientious than to have uttered such a statement without having first ascertained its truthfulness. Let us have the evidence, good or bad, upon which it rests.

That the Witness is more or less conscious of the weakness of its case is demonstrated by this admission: "Farmers are, however, proverbially a race of grumblers, and it may be that they are simply exercising their prerogative in this direction at present. We would like to obtain more information on this important subject." The World has time and again supplied such information in the shape of incontrovertible facts, but facts do not suit the Witness because they make against it. None of the advocates of that case, from Mr. Wiman down, has urged anything better than bold and bald assertions, for the good reason that none of them can do so.

But who are the farmers who are doing the grumbling in this instance? Lawyer Fuller of Hamilton, Lawyer McMillan of Orangeville, Editors Cameron and Bunting of Toronto, Brother Wiman of New York and Demagog Butterworth of Cincinnati, none of whom ever hoed a hill of potatoes or ran a furrow in their lives. Funny farmers they are. And the funniest part of it all is that these farmers' friends proposes to relieve their protegee of the pressure of a native tariff by subjecting them to a much higher foreign tariff. The proposition is too self-contradictory to bear investigation.

A Potater for the Mayor and Council.

The northeast corner of King and Yonge streets is in the market; it is also said the northwest could be bought at a fair valuation. The pointer, then, is for the city to buy these two corners, from fifty to one hundred square feet on each street, round them off as a semi-quadrant and thus relieve the busiest corner of the city of the traffic congestion that is common there. This suggestion was made years ago, when the four corners could have been had but was not accepted. It is stated that the increased frontage given by the circle would pay in rent in a few years for the cost of the improvement.

Why is This?

Three days have elapsed since Mr. Erastus Wiman published a defense of commercial union against annexation. So far neither the Globe nor the Mail has even noticed the appearance of the communication.

Why is this? Is it because the fallacy of Mr. Wiman's argument was so apparent that even the Toronto American papers had to stand from under, much as they have hitherto shown themselves disposed to accord that gentleman space?

Or is it that there has been a falling out among the truly good over the great question of bids to Bro. McMillan's tea-fight?

Evangelists Jones and Small collected $1200 in Rome in one week. This particular Rome is situated in Georgia.

The Chicago Times says that "Canadians will probably excuse Hanlan's defeat at Pullman." Readily, seeing that he was beaten by a Canadian. Our neighbors have never beaten us in aquatic efforts, except in the boat-sawing department. Therein they shine.

Up to date no Canadian Nationalist has been invited by Chairman McMillan to speak at his picnic upon Dominion Day. This oversight may have been purely unintentional. At any rate Mr. McMillan must for the present be given the benefit of the doubt. It is to be hoped, however, that he will soon perceive the propriety of allowing Canadians an opportunity of standing up against the foreigner for their own country upon that country's natal day. Otherwise he may place himself in an invidious position both as a citizen and a sworn officer of the Crown.

Canon Dumoulin having ventured to express the opinion that a limited Sunday street car service might prove a great convenience to church-goers, the Globe makes an opportunity to abuse him in a lengthy article characteristic of the source from which it emanates. Canon Dumoulin needs no defence at our hands. Should he deem any reply necessary he is amply equal to the occasion, but we opine that he will find in the sympathy of every generous mind, in and out of his own congregation, all the vindication he requires. Those who have taken the trouble to read the Globe's lampoon have been chiefly impressed by the fact that the Deacon contents himself with personal abuse of the Canon, and does not argue the street car question at all. Sunday street cars may be right or may be wrong—The World's views upon that subject are well known—but there can be no difference of opinion among decent people as to the vileness of the attack which the Globe has made upon Canon Dumoulin in this connection. Several staunch Liberals who are not Churchmen have expressed to The World their utter detestation and reprobation of that attack.

Freehold Loan and Savings Company.

This old-established company held their twenty-eighth annual meeting yesterday, the Hon. Wm. McMaster presiding. The yearly statement of the directors showed that the net profit of the year amounted to $127,381.18, out of which two half-yearly dividends, amounting to $106,082.43, have been paid, $13,871 carried to reserve, and $7,427.75 transferred to contingent account. The loans made on mortgages during the past year amounted to $1,289,035.82, and cash paid in by borrowers to $847,799. The exhibit is highly satisfactory and shows careful and economical management.

Some Figures for Commercial Unionists.

Editor World: I have read with much pleasure your frequent criticisms of the new cry of unrestricted reciprocity. It is nothing more than an idle dream of a few visionaries who have not carefully studied its practicability or probable effects, backed up by a number of selfish schemers with personal ambitions or objects to be accomplished, either political or commercial, and aided and abetted by disappointed politicians who are using it with the hope of destroying our National Policy.

The figures and arguments used by its advocates are one-sided and misleading, its appeals are directed to all the is selfish and sordid, and are especially framed so as to arouse class jealousies and antagonism between farmers and manufacturers, whose interests have been and should continue to be identified with each other.

It is impossible to discuss such a subject within the limits of a letter of reasonable length, but I take the liberty of submitting a few facts and observations which may interest some of your readers.

SWINE AND HOG PRODUCTS.

According to the statistical abstract and record for 1886 published by the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa, the number of swine killed or sold in the Dominion of Canada during the year 1881 was 1,302,503. For the year 1885 this quantity was probably increased. A very moderate estimate of the average weight would be 200 lbs. dressed. During the packing season, Dec. 1 to March 4, 1884-5, the quotations for dressed hogs in Montreal ranged from $5.65 to $6.35 per 100 lbs., the average being $6.10. During corresponding period in 1885-6, the average was $5.75. According to this the average value of 200 lb. hogs would be about $12, and delivered in Montreal making, even more than a fair allowance for loss in weights, freight, commission, etc., would leave value on farm fully $10, making aggregate value of hogs slaughtered and sold in Canada, $13,025,030.

In many parts of the Dominion where wheat, barley, peas, horses and cattle are the principal products marketed by farmers, this matter of hog products is apt to be either overlooked altogether or greatly under-valued. But when fairly considered it will be seen that the pork and lard industry is one of the most important branches of farming, and does mind equally that of all the other branches of farming in the Dominion. These two staples, bacon and pork, are produced at a better profit than our own, and under conditions that we would be of some benefit to us in these articles. Now and then, under the manipulation of some clique or combination such as at present exists in Chicago on barrel pork, prices are unduly stimulated for a little. Grit newspapers and spouters produce these quotations, and use them to decry our home market. The fact is, that the very contrary is the case. Large as the number and value of swine slaughtered in Canada is, these are not sufficient for our own consumption, and large quantities have to be brought in from the United States on which we collect duties—on swine 25 per cent., on pork, fresh or in carcass, 1 cent per lb.; on bacon, hams, shoulders and lard, 2 cents per lb.; on lard, tried or rendered, 2 cents per lb.

The following statement, compiled from the Trade and Navigation Returns, will show the true position of this trade:

IMPORTS INTO THE DOMINION FROM UNITED STATES DURING YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1885.

	Quantity. In lbs.	Value.	Duty.	Total.
Swine—4,465 head, do. for breeding, fattening bond for export	10,808,890	$ 78,098 20	p.c. $ 14,604 80	
Or which entered for consumption	38,200	526,743	257 60	
Lard, tried or rendered	5,044,235	229,950	2 c. lb	60,786 83
Bacon, hams, shoulders and sides	4,982,760	495,315	" "	97,648 12
Pork	14,596,397	924,276	1 c. "	134,685 85
Do. in carcass, to be cured in bond	2,448	15,670	" "	24 48
		$2,248,460		$308,007 68
During the above year Canada imported from other countries than U.S. hog products		8,500		249 26
		$2,256,960		$308,256 94
During same year Canada exported of all kinds of hog products, of which $791,267 went to Great Britain and $33,667 to Newfoundland		824,934		
Makes imports in excess of exports		$1,432,012		$308,256 94

During the year ending June 30, 1885, Canada imported from the United States 16,438 swine; 9,276,137 lbs. of swine to be slaughtered in bond for export; 3,339,046 lbs. rendered lard; 5,366,931 lbs. bacon, hams, shoulders and sides; 15,872,627 lbs. pork, of a total value of $1,776,157; amount of duty collected, $320,535.32; to which, add duty on small quantity imported from other countries, $338.02, makes total duty collected, $320,867.34. During same year Canada's exports of all hog products were, in value, $812,47.

During the two years we imported of all kinds of produce of hogs equal to 336,011 hogs averaging 200 lbs. each; we imported, in value, $2,378,339 more than we exported, and collected customs duties $608,224.23. We exported, in value, $1,646,085, of which $1,488,849 went to Great Britain and Newfoundland. Canned meats of all kinds are excluded from above statements, as they are not classified by themselves. In view of the position as to hog products exhibited by the above, surely, no one will contend that reciprocity would benefit Canadian farmers in this branch of their trade. It is evident that during these two years the Canadian market has been better than the American market just to the same extent as the Americans have paid duty on what they sent us. Take even the 1 cent per lb. of duty on uncured pork—has not this added $2 per head to the value of all the 200-pound hogs which our farmers have sold. Supposing half of these were retained for food on the farm and the other half sold, then the increased value accruing to the remaining half by reason of the duty was, on 651,251 hogs, $1,302,502, just that much more than American farmers obtained for a like number and weight.

It is not only on hogs and their products that our Government has levied and collected duties, but on other produce of the American farmer. During the year ending June 30, 1885, we collected duties on United States wheat $55,964.96; on wheat flour, $980,016.48; on Indian corn, $119,230.07; on oats, $25,199.15; on peas, $48,859.15; on mill feed, $6,159.12; on oatmeal, $1,402.67; on other breadstuffs, $21,831.83. By going through the Trade and Navigation Returns for 1884-5, I find that on animals, breadstuffs, provisions, vegetables, fruit and dairy products of all kinds we excluded from above statements, as they are not classified by themselves. In view of the position as to hog products exhibited by the above, surely, no one will contend that reciprocity would benefit Canadian farmers in this branch of their trade. It is evident that during these two years the Canadian market has been better than the American market just to the same extent as the Americans have paid duty on what they sent us. Take even the 1 cent per lb. of duty on uncured pork—has not this added $2 per head to the value of all the 200-pound hogs which our farmers have sold. Supposing half of these were retained for food on the farm and the other half sold, then the increased value accruing to the remaining half by reason of the duty was, on 651,251 hogs, $1,302,502, just that much more than American farmers obtained for a like number and weight.

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