

by their policy, forbid their people to consume or use our products ; while we say to our people, throw aside your desire to keep up your own country, and your wish to produce a national system, here is a foreign article produced cheaper than yours, buy it, and save your money. Thus appealing to the penuriousness of the people : and in this manner our manufactures are kept down, and consequently excite no alarm in the minds of any, as to any evil consequences that may ensue. I could enter very fully into the question, but it would not subserve the purpose you have in view. I am anxious to present as succinct an answer to your question as I can possibly give, but I desire to show the practical and prospective bearing of what we call reciprocity on the welfare and advancement of our own country ; and it is folly to suppose we can rear a manufacturing trade of our own if we permit our neighbours to come into our markets at reduced rates of duties, while we are excluded from theirs by duties in many instances more than double upon the corresponding duties in ours. And you ask what effect would it have upon expatriation were we to encourage our own manufactures? The answer to such a question must be obvious to all. Had we the manufactories we should retain our own artizan population to work in our own factories. They would not desert their homes if we called into existence these lines of industry which we compel them to seek in other lands, because we fail in duty to our own. And were the duties under our reciprocity treaty the same in both countries upon the same articles, it would be sufficient for us to encourage our own, and retain amongst us our youthful and rising population. And not only should we retain them amongst us, but we should attract to the lines of our industry the artizans and manufacturing population of other and more densely populated countries.

7th. What, in your opinion, induces the United States to keep up its high protective duties on iron, and what is the consequence to us?

There is no doubt that the high productive duty in the United States is put on to meet the English manufacturer, who, from having been so long protected and nursed, is now enabled, by his great wealth, arbitrarily, and not from any other cause but to monopolize if possible, to reduce the value of the article of iron for the purpose of exporting it to the States, in order to operate so powerfully upon the market as to supply the wants of the country alone, and at such low prices as will compel the United States manufacturers to keep their establishments closed. A combination of iron masters in England reduces the price say of £2 duty, or ten dollars. They agree to share the loss, and consequently break down the business of their opponents in the States ; who, if they desire to come into the market, must reduce their prices to the level of those made by the English importer. This they cannot do and live, and prices reduced upon this system affect us also ; and not only is the English iron thus brought into our market to drive out our own manufactures, but we are excluded from a foreign market by the high rate of duty thus put on to enable the old establishments to monopolize. Therefore there can be no doubt that the subject is one of great importance to this country, and demands the close and prompt attention of any government that considers that Canada as a country, must hereafter look as much to manufactures as to agriculture for its growth and prosperity. It will be observed that, with reference to this article of iron, it is a production and manufacture common alike to both countries, and therefore requires to be dealt with by both alike,