

Objections and obstacles have been raised to this, principally from railway people fearing competition, from intermediate ports wishing to remain the seats of a useless transshipment; or from those who have not studied the matter. The writer finds by the history of past times, that such traffic is perfectly possible and easy, and he has received the testimony of those in Canada best qualified to judge, that it is certain, sooner or later, to be the chief mode of carriage between Canada and the outside world. The Dominion now buys about \$2,000,000 worth of bituminous coal yearly—the Maritime Provinces about \$2,500,000 worth of flour. With protection, we should use at once more like ten than two millions of coal, the quantity would ever increase, and we should buy the two articles of each other.

THE CRY OF TAXATION.

Statements intended to deceive Canadians on this subject are too common. For instance, that which calls all tariffs taxation. Revenue tariffs—which tax what cannot be produced here—are taxes. Protective tariffs do not represent the amount of taxation; but often the lessening of taxation. The Loulides and Calhoun tariffs, in the States, put 40 per cent. on cotton. The effect was so to help the cotton industry that cottons, before 25 cents, were sold profitably at 7 cents. The chief free-trade organ here—the *Globe*—has four times in the last few months quoted a speech to the following effect, from some Illinois politician—thrice in its editorial columns—who says the U. S. farmers' hammers, nails, ploughs, knives, sheets, blankets, shirts, coats, shoes and hats, Bibles, carpets, plates, knives and forks, salt, pepper, spice and tobacco are taxed 35, 50, 70, 150, and up to 379 per cent., his coffee 47 per cent. and his tea 78 per cent. The paper in question, in these four times, said once that the duties had since been modified, but always omitted to mention its knowledge (for the regulations had been very generally reported) that tea and coffee have come free into the U. S. ever since 1872. Every Canadian farmer is also well aware that most of these very articles are now so much cheaper in the States than elsewhere that we yearly import many of them. The *Globe* was challenged to name one article protection had rendered dearer in Canada, and could not. It was also publicly challenged by the present writer, some months ago, to allow him three letters explanatory of protection, in its columns, and could not. As to the prices and cost of living in the States, they are, considering the amount of actual taxation they voluntarily undergo to pay off their debt, very low. There is no doubt—no room for dispute—on the matter. In every State, in 1874, most minute returns of average retail prices of provisions, groceries, clothes, fuel and houseware, were transmitted to Washington. It seems from these that farmers, in most parts, got better prices for eggs, butter, cheese and meat, in every town than they were getting here. Cloth and dry goods were no higher—some cheaper—than here. Tea was 80c. to \$1.20; coffee cheaper than here, about 35c. Board in the New England and middle States was about \$4.50. Wages were much higher than here. The returns from Illinois—the State the *Globe* has so paraded—give tea \$1.00, coffee 27c., sugar 11c., bleached shirtings 10c., ticking 25c., satnets 65c., prints 10c., mousselin-de-laïnes 15c. What the farmer got was: eggs 20c., milk 6½c., potatoes 91c., cheese 18½c., butter 28½c., flour \$7.00, beef 8c. to 11c., mutton and pork 11c. to 12c. Now, (1878), board is much cheaper there: tea averages 40c. in Chicago, coffee 20c.

CONCLUSION.

The writer wishes to press these points, in conclusion, on the notice of Canadian farmers and townsmen:—The home demand for farm products, in Canada, from non-farmers, is now four times what we export. The more factories we get, the greater that home demand. People who back up the great trading combination, which under the name of free trade, is draining the land of its strength, insist that Liverpool rules our prices. No distant port has any right to rule our prices. None buys from us to that extent. Secure our farmers their home market, and they will never want good prices nor good crops, for with a near market they can farm well and enrich their land, which now they cannot. Nor will any workman here, getting good wages and full work, as should be the case for many years under Protection, grudge fair prices for all farm produce. Let Indian ryot and Russian peasant raise wheat at famine prices—our farmers have had enough of being made to sell as low as they. Nor is it fair that our workmen should be ever kept under the grinding pressure of foreign importations—the importers of which simply say to the Canadian workman—Work as low as those who make these, or starve. The simple explanation of how both farmers and mechanics can be advantaged is this: Our country is rich enough—we work hard enough—but it is steadily drained of all we make. Take this instance:—If we grow a million worth of barley and sell it for a million dollars and send them to Europe for a million worth of iron, the barley is gone, the money is gone, and in a few years the iron is used up—all is gone. But if we had—as we might—the iron workers here—the barley might be used, the iron used; but the money would never have left the land—it would by that time have circulated in all directions—would have gone round and round, and given work and profit wherever it went. It is such management alone which can make us a prosperous nation—it would make us a very prosperous one. Emphatically, our great country, with its vast stretches of medium soils, can never prosper as a mere exporter of grain and cattle. Do its best, try every expedient—all will be useless. Natural and inexorable laws bar the way. But for the other prospect—that of a great and powerful country dependent upon itself alone for its food and manufactures—there is no land on earth better qualified. That way lies the path to greatness, to wealth, to national honor—broad, clear and open. There is another path—we are on it—it leads to our becoming a poor, dependent and despised portion of the United States. There is no third course.