

INDUSTRIAL WORLD

AND NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

DEVOTED TO HOME INDUSTRIES, SCIENCE, COMMERCE, FINANCE, INSURANCE, RAILROADS AND MINING.

Vol. II—No. 51.

THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 1881.

\$3 PER ANNUM.

THE INDUSTRIAL WORLD

AND NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

PUBLISHED ONCE A WEEK.

FREDERIC NICHOLLS, GENERAL MANAGER, TORONTO.

SUBSCRIBERS

Published in advance per year, Three dollars. Subscriptions should be made by registered money order payable to F. NICHOLLS, General Manager, INDUSTRIAL WORLD.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The Industrial World, on account of its wide and general circulation, commends itself as an advertising medium for all who seek business with manufacturers and the whole trade. Its advertising rates are low when compared with those of other leading scientific and industrial publications. Care of copy should be given.

Advertisements should be ordered to run on the office by Tuesday morning in order that some parts of the paper go to press on the day.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The department "National Industries," is open for the unrestricted use of those who desire to place their views on interesting topics before their brethren in the trade. Nothing in the nature of an advertisement will be printed in this department.

Contributors will be obliged to all who will supply in items of news or late occurrences, and each will be printed in their appropriate place.

All editorial communications to be addressed to:

INDUSTRIAL WORLD OFFICE,
DRAWER 100, OTTAWA, ONT.

All business letters, inquiries and advertisements, to be addressed to:

FREDERIC NICHOLLS,

INDUSTRIAL WORLD OFFICE,
TORONTO, ONT.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH TREATY QUESTION—FEELING IN ENGLAND.

The excitement in commercial and manufacturing circles in England over the new French General Tariff and over the negotiations for a new treaty between England and France continues. In fact the whole country is more or less agitated on the subject. In the House of Commons a couple of weeks ago Mr. Moxley, M.P., for Gloucester, moved:—"That this House views with regret the reactionary character of the new French General Tariff, and is of opinion that no commercial treaty between Great Britain and France will be satisfactory which does not tend to the development of commercial relations between the two countries by a further reduction of duties." After discussion the motion was carried by a vote of 77 to 49. Commenting on the resolution the Times says it "represents the view entertained and supported by the Government in the negotiations for a new treaty now proceeding, and its terms were fully justified in principle by the recent despatches of Lord Granville, as well as the language used by Sir Charles Dilke in the course of the debate. It is becoming daily more and more clear that it is better to have no commercial treaty with France at all than to have one which confers on English trade fewer advantages in the aggregate than it at present enjoys. The new French tariff points distinctly to the latter contingency, and the only object which negotiation can have must be to produce such modifications as will maintain, if not improve upon the status quo in the general result. If it should fail in this endeavour the Government has no alternative but to withdraw from the negotiations and resume its liberty of action." The Morning Post points out that "it took many years and great efforts to convince the English people that Free Trade was the only sound policy on which their industries could be carried on. But the experience of more than a generation has so riveted

that policy in the English mind that nothing but a clear necessity could induce us to depart from it. The question now is whether that necessity has arisen. The outlook is grave enough to occasion deep anxiety to those who are capable of comprehending it. The industries of the whole world are arrayed against us, and it must be clear to every man of common sense that we are every year becoming more and more unequal to the struggle in which we are engaged." The St. James's Gazette says:—"The majority by which Mr. Moxley's motion was carried last evening gives evidence of the strong feeling excited throughout the country by the reaction in commercial policy of France. The discussion which preceded the division was moderate; and in this respect it hardly represented the sentiment of the constituencies accurately. Beyond a doubt, there is a strong desire for retaliation should France persist in its refusal of more liberal duties. On the other hand, feeling in France would seem also to be rising. The note in the Dix-Neuvieme Siècle, said to be semi-official, quoted by the Paris correspondent of the Standard this morning, is not reassuring—especially this extract:—"We cannot exactly estimate what importance is to be attached to the suggestion of the breaking-off of all commercial understanding between the two countries; but we can affirm that the English are on the wrong tack, and are wholly mistaken if they imagine that they can influence France and her representatives by menace and violence of language. We do not know what may be the intentions of the French Government, but we are convinced that, notwithstanding its very sincere desire to maintain the commercial entente cordiale which has lasted between England and France for twenty years, it will not sacrifice any interest of our national industry, and that M. Tirard will remain faithful to his repeated declarations at the time the General Tariff Bill was under discussion, and maintain with very few exceptions the status quo in our international conventions." Fortunately, Sir Charles Dilke's speech last night gives ground for hope that the French Government is more conciliatory than this extract would lead one to expect. "The Standard says editorially on the vote on Mr. Moxley's resolution:—"The decision correctly indicates the state of feeling on the subject in the country. What effect this declaration will have it is impossible certainly to say. Sir Charles Dilke is not likely to be ignorant of the currents of French sentiment on this matter, and his speech of last night, on this whole, favours the idea, that the prospects of a new commercial treaty between the two countries do not improve." The newspapers received on Monday contain reports of meetings of Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce in many cities and towns of the United Kingdom, at all of which the existence of great disappointment at the character of the new French Tariff was expressed. As a rule, the sentiments of the speakers were in favour of Free Trade, but the confession was freely made that the hope once entertained that other leading commercial nations of the world would follow England's example had not been realized, but, on the contrary, Protection was the popular policy of the time. While the advocates of Protection in England are not numerous, it is evident that a feeling is growing that sooner or later something must be done in the interest of the home producer. Free Trade is the right principle in theory; but Free Trade all on one side is not popular. And it is against this sort of thing that the British manufacturer is now protesting in tones the meaning of which cannot be misunderstood. The latest

news we have regarding the progress of the treaty negotiations comes from the special cable column of the New York World. Mr. Jamison, the London correspondent of that journal, telegraphs:—"Three weeks ago I cabled you that the negotiations on foot for a new commercial treaty between England and France had failed, the French Government declining to recede from the principle of specific duties. This news of no little importance to the British people is only feeling the light in the English papers. The Foreign Office people still pretend that there is a chance of success, but everybody knows that this is only the way officials here of letting themselves down easy. In the manufacturing districts the feeling in favour of retaliatory duties is making astonishing progress, and the movement has at length reached London. A crowded meeting of artisans was held here yesterday to protest against foreign countries and the action of their tariffs, and the speakers, of course, demanded countervailing duties. Letters were received from the Marquis of Salisbury, Mr. McArthur, M.P. (the Lord Mayor of London), Mr. Edward Clarke, M.P. (who will be the Attorney General in the next Tory Government), and other prominent men sympathizing, if not with retaliation, at least with the protest against foreign duties. Other journals regretfully admit that the battle of Free Trade has to be fought over again in England, and all concede that the retaliation movement is destined to become a powerful factor in British politics, if not to be the leading question of the day before very long. It is more than likely that the Government will be compelled to increase the duty on French wines. The present duty works unjustly against the English distillers, and the imposition of a heavier duty would be both retaliation against the foreigner and fair play to a home industry that has suffered grievously for some years past."

This Trade question is the all-important one in England at the present time. If the negotiations for a new treaty with France fail, the situation will become serious.

A WARNING.

While some Canadian newspapers are engaged in the anything but patriotic work of making little of their country and pulling up the United States, it is just as well that such representations as that contained in a letter of "A Canadian" in the Pembroke Observer should receive publicity. He says:—"I do not write from hearsay, but from personal experience, and I feel it my duty as a Canadian to expose those frauds whereby our country is being robbed of its bone and sinew. There are agents along the lines of different railroads in Canada hiring men to work on the extension of the Michigan Central going north from Gaylord to Cheboygan. Their victims start with glowing prospects, arriving at their destination to meet with disappointment. Their wages as stated to them are from \$1.75 to \$2 per day, with board at \$3.50 per week. On their arrival the programme is changed, wages from \$1.25 to \$1.50, board \$1, and I have seen better fed thrown to dogs in Canada. Nor is this all. They are jammed into miserable hovels to sleep, which are alive with vermin, and mere dens of disease, many having to sleep in the open air with but one small blanket, with gnats, black flies, and the pleasant buzz of the mosquito to lull them to sleep, and an occasional bite of another sort of insect as a dessert, arising discouraged, disheartened and disappointed, a stranger in a strange land without money or friends. Many start and tramp it home; others work till they get enough to carry them away, and many have to leave without their pay. The country here is full of this class of people. At Bay City and Saginaw the lumbermen go through their racks and pick out such as suit them at their own wages. But there is still another class of men who are selling their farms and coming here to get cheap land. The cheap land here, so far as I have seen, would be dear as a gift. This is in the northern part of the State. I have travelled over two hundred miles in this section, and

failed to see a self-sustaining farm so far. If it was not for the lumber trade they would starve. In the southern part of the State the good farming lands, but they are too dear for settlers to purchase. The land from Bay City to Gaylord consists of pine and hemlock ridges, interspersed with cedar, tamarac, elm, ash, and some maple and beech. There is not enough good land together to make a settlement, so when the timber is gone the land is worthless. From Gaylord north to Mackinac it is chiefly hard wood on a coarse gravelly sand soil, with a white sand sub-soil for a depth of one hundred and fifty feet. The winter season lasts from the middle of October to the middle of May, with frosts every month of the year. Last week it froze one-quarter of an inch thick. One requires a fire every night for comfort. I advise any that have any intention of coming here not to be carried away by glowing circulars and advertising dodges, but come and see for yourself. But do not forget to bring enough of the needful to carry you back, or you also may become a victim." It is too much to expect that the Opposition journals which are encouraging emigration will publish such statements as the foregoing. They prefer to circulate the attacks of those who while pretending to be loyal Canadians are in some instances the hired agents of American newspapers, and who for such pay as they can obtain are ready any day in the week to abuse their country and her institutions, and to do any amount of dirty work that may be required of them by their foreign employers.

MANUFACTURING PROGRESS.

One of the objects aimed at by the National Policy was the encouragement of manufacturing industries in Canada. The success that has already attended the patriotic efforts of the Government in that direction has proved highly gratifying; and present prospects point to still "greater things" in the future. We seldom take up a paper that does not contain some information regarding the starting of new industries. True Free Trade journals in their editorial columns sometimes declare that the National Policy has been a failure; but so unmistakable is the evidence to the contrary that if they were to allege that the waters of the St. Lawrence do not flow in the direction of the sea they would not take a position more diametrically opposed to the facts of the case than they do in their feeble attempt to make their readers believe that Canada has not derived material benefit from the operations of the present tariff. It often happens, however, that while for party purposes they publish articles pronouncing the National Policy a failure, their telegraphic and local columns contradict their representations. But the people can see for themselves; they can read and reflect for themselves, and no amount of writing on the principle of telling the people that the darkness of midnight prevails while the sun is shining, will convince them that the new fiscal policy is not producing the beneficial effects predicted by its promoters. Nobody ever suspected that the National Policy would make every man in the country rich; for the simple reason that to have entertained such an idea would have been superlative folly. But the advocates of the National Policy prophesied that among other things it would cause a revival in manufacturing circles and, consequently, would improve the condition of the mechanic and those employed in industrial establishments. The prophecy has been fulfilled. Never in the history of Canada was there so large a number of men earning good wages as to-day. And

not only is such the fact, but from different quarters comes the intelligence that not a few manufacturing establishments are handicapped in consequence of the scarcity of skilled labour; while as regards the class generally known as workmen, we have it on the authority of the Toronto Globe that the services of men cannot be secured at temptingly high wages, a state of affairs which has necessitated the sending to England for men to work on the Pacific Railway. From time to time we have published extracts from our contemporaries pointing out the activity which prevails all over the country. The following paragraph from the Napanee Standard tells the story of how the N. P. is working there:—

"Napanee manufactures are at flood tide. Everything is humming; Gibbard & Son intend to go into the wholesale manufacture of furniture, but they can't get far enough ahead of their retail trade to make it worth while sending out a traveller. They keep two delivery wagons, and these are sometimes run so hard that a livery team has to be impressed into service. They have largely increased their staff of workmen, yet their retail trade keeps pace. About a month ago they filled a large order for a gentleman in Harris, who, after having looked through the factories in Toronto and Bowmanville, made his selections in Napanee. On Friday last the same man gave another large order. The Urquhart Company's business has so out-grown their present premises, that though working night and day, unfulfilled orders accumulate on their office floor, and they have plans for the erection of an immense new building. Harris's agricultural works are humming, and the whole staff is kept at racing speed. Tromer's blanket mills, as well as Perry's woolen mills, and Dewey & Co.'s flour mills, and the Gliscope mills are kept running night and day. The cement works are doing a rushing trade, while every other industry in the town is in full hum. Building operations are standing still for want of material and workmen, so great is the demand for both, and the town never felt so much vitality throbbing through its business veins as at the present time. The Free Traders may deny that a protective tariff is of any benefit, but they say not the fact in their pipes and smoke it that we have the National Policy national prosperity, so coincidental and evidently interdependent that only the most despairing out-of-office politician is mad enough to ignore the palpable existence of the direct cause and effect."

Such paragraphs as the foregoing, and many such have appeared lately, are the best answers to those who say that the National Policy has been a failure.

THE FIGHT AT ALBANY.

It appears now as if the New York State Legislature may adjourn without having been able to elect two Senators to fill the present vacancies. In that case the battle will be fought out at the State elections the coming Fall; and perhaps it is just as well that it should be. The issue raised is one of national importance, and it is fitting that it should be decided by the count of last resort—the vote of the people themselves. It is to be regretted that the Canadian press, so far, has for the most part taken very one-sided and insufficient views of this matter, which now so much agitates our Republican neighbours. Scarcely is there a Canadian journal to be named that does not condemn Conkling as being wholly in the wrong, while President Garfield has become the ideal of a great and good man, courageously doing his best to crush out an evil system. Now, that this is really the right view is by no means so clear as the large majority of our contemporaries would have the Canadian public believe. The supposition is that Garfield is fighting the battle of civil service reform, to begin with. He desires to establish a system under which appointments and promotions shall go by individual merit, and shall not be the rewards merely of political services. Further, he is in favour of doing away with the present custom of sweeping almost the whole body of civil servants out of doors when one party succeeds another in control of the Government, and would make the tenure