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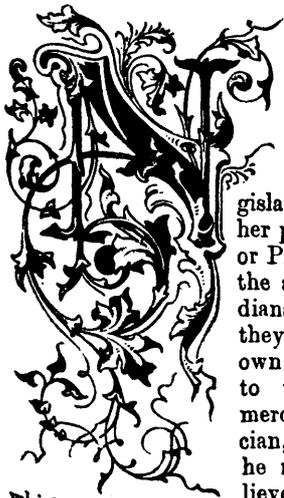
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NOTES ON THE NEW CANADIAN TARIFF.



OW that the new Tariff Act has received the sanction of Her Majesty, we begin to feel that a third point has been gained in Canadian legislation of greater importance to her people than either Free Trade or Protection, and that it is now the acknowledged right of Canadians to impose such duties as they may think fit to protect their own industries, even though it be to the disadvantage of British mercantile interests. No politician, of whatever side of politics he may belong, can honestly believe in his heart that any duty

which we may impose on English foreign imports is in any way intended to injure British trade. A few insignificant manufactures in Great Britain may feel a slight effect from our competition, but the day is far distant when Canada will be in a position, both in population and wealth, to become a rival to the Mother Country in those important manufactures which form the main-spring of England's wealth and greatness. When that day does arrive, Britain will find that she will have more to receive in return than she has to give. The encouragement that a fresh impetus, about being given to immigration, and the colonization of the country, which is about to be systematized, will, in a few years, bring about a greater return to English manufacturers than they will lose by our present law.

Until the tariff resolutions become law, each political party had a decided right to vote according to his own and the views of the majority of his constituents, but having done his duty, it would be injudicious in the extreme to endeavour to throw obstacles in the way of the country giving the new tariff a fair trial. If, after a sufficient trial—and it cannot fully be tested for the next three years to come—it turns out satisfactorily, it will be as much to the advantage of the manufacturers

who opposed the protective duties, as it will be to those who were in favor of them; but until it shall have been plainly shown that a moderate protection to our industries is bringing ruin to the country, the subject should be allowed to rest.

The main object of the present protective duty on imports is to save our country, to some extent, from being made the slaughter market for American manufactures at periods of depression in American trade, or to meet some financial crisis in a large manufactory, which could sell its surplus stock in Canada at a low figure to realize ready cash, without injuring its own market. So great a difference is there between the population of the United States compared with the actual buying population of the Dominion, that one large factory alone could, out of its surplus stock, send into this country sufficient to effectually stop the demand for such goods as it manufactured for months afterwards, and thus not only throw out of employment our mechanics, but completely paralyze our manufactures.

The object of the majority of the people in demanding protection, was not for the purpose of creating monopolies in trade or manufactures, or for the benefit of particular firms at the cost of the country, for such could not possibly happen with our enterprising neighbours so close at hand, and our own competition, to keep down prices: the intention was simply this, that when we can manufacture as cheap, and produce as good articles as made in the States, we deserve to have the privilege of making what we require in our own country, to employ our own mechanics, use our own raw materials, keep our money in Canada and spend it among ourselves for our own benefit and pleasure. Let us now, therefore, set earnestly to work and endeavour to bring about good results from the present change in our tariff by giving it a fair trial.

There is one important feature in which the success of our manufacturers depends, and that is upon the machinery they use, and the skill of the workmen they employ. In our machinery, it must be confessed, we are behind the Americans, and it cannot be expected that we can compete successfully with them, even with the tariff in our favour, until we put ourselves upon an equality in that respect. We have had an opportunity of visiting the principal manufactories in New England States, and can