

protection at a surprising rate though at enormous cost in times past to the consumer. This is true; but why not apply this fact to Canada? We have extraordinary natural advantages also for the manufacture of iron, and without doubt if we had adequate protection the industry would also develop at a surprising rate; but the cost would not be "enormous" to the consumer, for as we have shown, active competition would prevent it. But even if for a while the cost of production should be greater in Canada than in the United States, would not the result be worth the price? We think it would.

We are told that "the magnificent distances, coupled with the scantiness of the population, enhance the cost of selling goods in Canada and of transporting them from the factory or warehouse to the consumer," and this is one reason the *Globe* gives why we should obtain our supplies from a greater distance and pay more for transporting them. There is no portion of the United States from which such goods may be obtained that is not paralleled and equalled as far as natural advantages go in Canada. Undersufficient protection iron and steel could be made even more cheaply in Toronto than in Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit or Chicago. It is nonsense to urge the scantiness of our population when we consume 600,000 tons of such goods a year. It is not necessary, either, that all these goods be manufactured in one place, and Canada could well support enough of these places, and would do so if producers could be assured of sufficient protection and a continuance of it for a sufficient term of years. Such establishments as we now have are the equal in point of excellence of production of any similar concern in the United States; but what encouragement is there for enterprising men to erect blast furnaces, or steel works, or rolling mills, or foundries, or machine shops in Canada for the production of these goods when such papers as the *Globe*, and the political party which the *Globe* represents, declare emphatically and continually that the system or policy of the Government which might encourage such enterprises is wrong and vicious, and that it shall be swept away and obliterated if that party should attain to power. This is one of the causes which operate to keep Canada in the position she now holds. The *Globe* and its party desires to subordinate everything to the idea of cheapness. Cheapness is not the most desirable thing for the people, but the opportunity to work and earn the means of buying. Under the operation of the *Globe's* theory instead of Canada possessing a great diversity of industries, as in the United States, and here to not quite so wide an extent, she would be nothing more than a producer of crude materials to be manufactured into merchantable commodities by other people in other countries. We would have no iron works, but we would be producers of ore and fuel. We would have no flour mills, but we would be growers of wheat. We would have no saw mills, but we would find occupation in felling timber.

The United States realized this situation long years ago, and struggled against it until industrial freedom was attained. Under the blighting influences of free trade ideas the country was dependent upon Britain and other foreign countries for nearly every manufactured article. The raw materials were sent abroad, and the necessities of life, manufactured of these materials, were imported from abroad. This condition of helplessness was painfully observable in the South during the late

war. The chief industry of the people was raising cotton, but no cotton fabrics were made there—they were all brought from England, whither the raw cotton had been sent; and when the fiery trial came the bravest men who ever shouldered musket did not have the facilities for manufacturing arms or ammunition, or for weaving even their blankets. They had no arsenals or workshops, no factories, nothing of the sort by which they could supply any of their necessities. And this was Mr. Jefferson Davis' ideal of an independent nation. Canada has pursued a different policy, but this is what the *Globe* desires to destroy.

What Canada needs at this time is protection to its own industries. Our present tariff does not afford this protection. The iron and steel clauses of the McKinley tariff would suit us admirably. Give us these and we will soon produce what we require of these articles: and we will then be independent of the outside world as the United States is.

### BRITISH TRADE.

Those who favor unrestricted reciprocity between Canada and the United States ridicule the idea of the possibility of Great Britain entering into any arrangement with her possessions, by which preference for their products will be shown in the British market. They tell us that the trade of Britain with her dependencies is but a very small portion of her total trade, and that, therefore, she would not do anything to imperil the greater to assist the lesser.

The trade between Britain and her dependencies, wherever they may be, is not foreign trade by any means: it is, properly viewed, internal commerce, quite as much as is the trade between Toronto and Montreal.

Figures before us, having reference to a recent year, show that the imports into Britain from her possessions were as follows: From

Asia.....	\$188,187,000
Australia.....	124,660,000
America.....	98,430,000
Africa.....	32,572,000
Europe.....	5,140,000

Total imports from British possessions..... \$448,989,000

The total imports from all foreign countries in the same year amounted to \$1,480,540,000, the colonial trade being about 22 per cent. of the whole.

The total exports from Great Britain in that year amounted to \$1,443,821,000, of which the following were to British possessions: To

Asia.....	\$192,615,000
Australia.....	91,057,000
America.....	58,291,000
Africa.....	39,458,000
Europe.....	12,902,000

Total exports to British possessions..... \$394,323,000

Deduct this from the total exports, and the balance shows the real value of trade with foreign countries. This was \$1,049,498 000, the export trade with the colonies being about 25 per cent. of the whole.

The total imports and exports were as follows:

Imports.....	\$1,929,529,000
Exports.....	1,443,821,000
Total.....	\$3,373,350,000