

## PROTECTION AND FREE TRADE.

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THE present circumstances of the "new nationality," or Dominion of Canada, call for an early practical solution, in our own case, of the great question which, for want of any more accurate and generally accepted designation, is commonly alluded to as that between Protection and Free Trade. To place before the public some portions of the general argument in favour of encouraging Home Industry, also arguments having a special bearing with reference to these Provinces; and to expose a few prominent Free Trade fallacies, is the object of the present pamphlet.

In taking up one of two sides on any question, it is desirable to have before the mind as clear and as authoritative a statement of the other side of that question as can be obtained. Clearness of definition and the narrowing down to a point of each debated issue, is essential to efficient discussion, with results. Keeping this requisite in view, the writer takes for a principal portion of the text of the argument on the Free Trade side a letter written by Mr. John Stuart Mill, and avowedly put forth, by a New York Free Trade paper, with extracts from Mr. Mill's works annexed, as a refutation of certain "fallacies of American Protectionists," alluded to. The similarity of natural, material, circumstances, between these Provinces on our side of the line, and some of the States on the other, makes what Mr. Mill says in this letter almost as closely applicable to our own case as to that of our neighbours. This letter is therefore placed in an appendix, supplemented by an article from the *Toronto Leader*, of Dec. 24, 1866, which article is selected for the following reasons: First, because it is a set newspaper essay—an elaborate attempt to bring Mr. Mill's doctrine to bear against the idea of "protection to native industry" in Canada: and next, because it was evidently intended to rebut the arguments used at two Home Industrial meetings of importance, which had not long before been