

of the towns, and in whatever helps to build up and develop the towns. The man who makes cordage or binder twine in a United States factory eats no Canadian farm produce. The Dingley bill duties were designed to keep Canadian produce out of the United States, and they do. The United States people appreciate the benefit of manufactures. They have seen what a variety of industrial establishments can do for a country. They have seen thriving centers of population growing up everywhere in their land. They have seen that where these centers were most numerous wealth was greatest and most widely distributed.

There is a social side to the question also. It is not good for man to live alone, or for women and children either. All are brightened by intercourse with their fellows of other pursuits. The farmer's family, whose members make frequent visits to the town, whether on business or on pleasure, are brighter, and, as a rule, are cleverer, than those whom distance keeps away. It is good in various ways, therefore, for the farmer and his family, that the town should flourish; and, therefore, the tariff that benefits the town, that causes flourishing towns to grow up throughout the country, is good for the country and for the farmer.

The Ministers at Ottawa, when they were brought face to face with the issue, after they had made enquiries in all parts of Canada, saw that absolute free trade was not likely to be a good thing for the country, and acted accordingly. They left the duties untouched on practically all the products of the farm. They reduced them on many lines of manufactures, but did not abolish them, except in regard to one or two articles, of which binder twine is the most important, as regards the number of factories, the value of plant and the amount of capital invested. Mr. Mallory appeals to the farmers to maintain this state of affairs; why, he knows best. Binder twine is a comparatively small item in the average farmer's expenditure. It does not cost