

pyramids, and he compared the sufferings of workmen, under Tory rule, as he was pleased to call it, to the poor fellows who were forced, under their Egyptian taskmasters, to make bricks without straw.

He alluded to the policy of the United States, to the ruin that it had already brought upon that country, and said they were committing financial suicide, as rapidly as possible, by adhering to it. He told them that a certain exception was made in respect to trade with Venezuela. He (Mr. Plumb) noticed that, because it was a little out of the way, and he wondered what had made him take the case of Venezuela as an illustration. The puzzle was finally solved by a pamphlet published by Mr. David A. Wells, the authority constantly quoted by the hon. gentleman and his colleagues. He (Mr. Plumb) found at the end of that pamphlet the very quotation, or something very near it, that had been made by the First Minister. He did not undertake to say the First Minister endorsed the views of Mr. Wells, but he (Mr. Mackenzie) introduced him to the people of Canada as an authority, and quoted from his writings. The pamphlet which the late First Minister quoted from, and which he must have read, contained the following paragraph, which would show what Mr. Wells intended by the policy which these gentlemen were so anxious we should adopt, and which he was so desirous to press upon the people of the United States. In a pamphlet published by Mr. Wells, entitled, "Why we trade, and how we trade," they found the following significant paragraphs, on pages 23, 24, 25, 26, and 27 :

"It is desired to annex the British North American Provinces, and make them a part of the American Union. We have, as a nation, for long years past, in our dealings with Canada, been playing the part of the wind, in the contest between the wind and the sun in the fable, to see which could make the traveller soonest take off his coat. Suppose, as a nation, we now, for a while, put aside the role of the wind, and assume the part of the sun. With the balance of advantage in any amicable contest between the two countries for industrial and commercial betterment so transcendently on the side of the richer, most populous, and most powerful nation, it must be a very low order of statesmanship on the part of the United States which could not devise and carry out a policy that, in less than a decade of years, would make the British Provinces ap-

plicas of their own accord for incorporation as States in the American Union, or would enable the United States, if it was deemed expedient, to force them to become such, by the threat, not of armed compulsion, but of simply clouding the sun.

"Thus, to illustrate, let us imagine what might be. North of Lakes Erie and Ontario, and the River St. Lawrence, east of Lake Huron, south of the forty-fifth parallel, and included mainly within the present Dominion Province of Ontario, there is as fair a country as exists on the North American continent; nearly as large in area as New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio combined, and equal, if not superior, as a whole, to these States in its agricultural capacity. It is the natural habitat on this continent of the combing-wool sheep, without a full, cheap and reliable supply of the wool of which species the great worsted manufacturing interests of the country cannot prosper, or, we should rather say, exist. It is the land where grows the finest barley, which the brewing interest of the United States must have if it ever expects to rival Great Britain in its present annual export of over eleven million of dollars' worth of malt products. It raises and grazes the finest of cattle, with qualities especially desirable to make good the deterioration of stock in other sections; and its climatic conditions, created by an almost encirclement of the great lakes, especially fit it to grow men.

"Such a country is one of the greatest gifts of Providence to the human race, better than bonanzas of silver, or rivers whose sands contain gold."

Between the late Finance Minister and Mr. Wells and the *Chicago Tribune*, a trio of enthusiastic Free-traders, a mutual admiration society existed. Mr. Wells quoted Mr. Cartwright, and Mr. Cartwright quoted Mr. Wells, and the *Chicago Tribune* quoted both, and patted them lovingly on the back. Under the paragraphs just quoted, from the pamphlet of Mr. Wells, in a foot note, he said :

"The extent to which Canada is necessarily dependent upon the United States for prosperity, is well illustrated by the following extract from the Budget speech of the Minister of Finance, the Hon. Richard Cartwright, before the Canadian House of Commons, February, 1875."

Then followed a sample of the late Finance Minister's eloquence, with which they were all tolerably familiar. And the late Finance Minister addressed a great Reform demonstration in Norfolk, held at Simcoe, on the 21st of September, 1877. Speeches, they were told, were also made there by Mr. Charlton, Mr. Mackenzie,