

Empire in their contributions to a joint treasury. Population alone will not do, on account of the immense number of savages and indigent laborers in the Colonies and India; but population under certain qualifications might. Assessable property might have been chosen, and for many good reasons, while perhaps the greatest objection thereto is in the necessary complication and the opportunities afforded for fraud. In advancing the "Qualified Member" system we intend no reflection upon a fair assessment plan, only, in the event of the latter being preferred, we would suggest that the assessment be made up under Imperial supervision, and on personal as well as real property.

## VIII.

Section 79 is but the ultimate conclusion to its preceding section. While Political Economists may be divided into two great classes,—“Free Traders” and “Protectionists,” it does not follow that all those of the latter class are so on principle. In fact we feel safe in asserting that fully one half of the avowed Protectionists are in heart Free Traders, but have been led to espouse Protection under the pressure of circumstances. Having concluded that Free Trade pure and simple is unobtainable, and of the two evils choosing the less, they have accepted “Protection” in preference to what somebody has styled “jug-handled” Free Trade. Such was Canada’s position. With a rich manufacturing neighbour just to the south of her, using British American ground simply as a slaughter market, no choice but Protection in some form or other was left Canada if she wished to preserve, not to say advance, her manufacturing industries. More than that, duties fully twenty per cent. higher than her own shut out her products, so, if she could not sell to the United States, she at least should be allowed to sell to herself. For years there has been on her Statute Books, a standing offer of Commercial Reciprocity, but it is too much to expect her to give all, and receive nothing, by declaring a one sided Free Trade. Much against her will she was precluded from discriminating in favour of the Mother Country, in that, the admission of goods into Great Britain being practically free, her Customs would be defrauded by foreigners bringing in their produce *via* England. Imperial Federation without interconfederate Free Trade would be, commercially at least, but a name, and yet, if one Province or Federacy is to be protected, every other part of the Empire must also levy on that foreign article at least an equal duty; as well lock four gates and leave the fifth wide open. It was with these facts in mind that section 78 was framed, and that “Customs and Duties,” section 15 subsection (9), were made subjects of Imperial cognizance, and, by section 16, subsection (2), were taken from the Federacies.

There is no doubt but that under section 15, subsection (2), irrespective of section 79, the Imperial Parliament would have had the power by the latter section declared, but, in this case, it appeared best to be explicit.

## IX.

While, at the present time, in the interest of young Colonies, it might be advisable to levy duties under section 15, subsection (9), and thereby provide the Imperial Exchequer with sufficient money, that source would not always be available. Consequently, that being about the only direct means of any importance for raising its revenue, the Empire must look to the Federacies. They in their turn must either fall back upon the Provinces and Territories or take advantage of section 16, subsections (2) and (3). But this last method of filling the treasury is not intended to be so resorted to. Rather, subsection (2) is inserted as the complement of subsection (3) and as an abiding guarantee of the ability to repay money borrowed under subsection (3) when, a large sum of money being at once demanded, it is deemed inadvisable to call immediately upon the Provinces and Territories for the same.