

the measure, which the actual cost for the fair market value of the goods at the time and place of exportation, and that no discounts for cash are made in the said invoice prices.

Subsection 2 of section 28 of the Customs Act, declares that any willfully false oath be made in any case where by this Act an oath is required or authorized, the party making the same shall be guilty of wilful and corrupt perjury, and liable to the punishment provided for that offence. It is surprising to us that after deliberately conspiring with the exporter to defraud the revenue men can take such an oath and expect to escape the penalty of conduct when discovered. The Customs law is intended to be a living, operative enactment, not a dead letter to be played fast and loose with as it may please business men. If its penal clauses are not to be operative, better have them expunged, for it is the worst farce to have them in the Act if they can be set at defiance with impunity. It is the duty of the Department to see that the law as it exists is observed, therefore when men who, with a full knowledge of its provisions in their possession, go to work to cheat the revenue, they have only themselves to blame if they are made to suffer the consequences of their acts.

PROTECTIONIST FRANCE.

It is the fashion with Free Trade advocates on this side the Atlantic to take, in a certain way, most unwarrantable liberties with facts. They will with the utmost complaisance speak of Protection in America as something exceptional, and opposed to the system of free exchange which they assume to prevail in Europe. It is not so much that they assert this in so many words; what they most frequently do is coolly to take for granted what they wish to be believed, as if it were something too settled to be called in question. The information which they seek to convey is to this effect: "You Protectionists in Canada and the United States are the advocates of an exploded system, which the great European authorities have long ago cast aside as a delusion. In keeping up the delusion of Protection you are simply isolating yourselves from the commercial world, and running counter to the spirit of this progressive age." It is necessary that the false implication thus conveyed should be squarely met, and the real truth of the matter made as public as possible. Free Trade has indeed been adopted by Great Britain, the country whose foreign commerce is greater than that of any other country in Europe, or in the world. But Protection as a permanent National Policy has been definitely adopted by France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Austria and Russia; and we may ask how much of the European Continent is left after these are counted? It has been adopted also by the United States and Canada, and by one of the Australian colonies—Victoria—with the prospect of its being adopted ere long by the whole of the Australian group. All this being true—and who can deny it?—what presumption is it on the part of Free Traders here to lecture us as if their system were the rule in the civilized world and ours the exception. Exactly the contrary is the fact; taking the commercial world all together, it is Protection is the rule, and Free Trade which is the exception. In the trade controversy the burden of proof should rest upon the minority—upon those who advocate an exceptional system, at variance with the general custom of the commercial world. The true state of the matter may be shown very forcibly by drawing attention to what is now going on in France, a country which in many things leads other countries, and gives examples which they follow. For about two years the French Chambers have been engaged in framing a new general tariff, and the work is now very nearly finished. The Senate will within a few days send back to the Chamber of Deputies the tariff bill, as received from the latter, with amendments by the former. It is not believed that the Senate's amendments will give rise to any protracted discussion in the other Chamber; indeed, M. TIRARD, Minister of Commerce, hopes to have the measure completed and passed before Easter. He thinks this desirable, it is said, in order that negotiations for commercial treaties with foreign countries may as speedily as possible be brought to a conclusion. The French Government, apparently,

has determined that the country's general tariff must be completed and on the statute book before taking seriously in hand the question of the convention tariff, embracing concessions to foreign nations. As regards England, the present situation may be briefly stated. The treaty of 1860 would in virtue of notice given, have lapsed more than a year ago, but in October, 1873, a provisional arrangement was made, by which it was to continue in force for six months after the day when the new tariff became law in France. With the prospect that the new tariff may become law before Easter, the duration of the existing arrangement is seen to be drawing near to its close— perilously near, so says the London Times. If no new treaty be made with England in the meantime, then the trade between the two countries will be governed from next October onwards by the most unfavourable regulations. From the same authority let us hear what kind of a measure the new French tariff is. "The general tariff," says the Times, "will be applied to all countries not having separate commercial treaties with France, and is certain to be severely protectionist in its character. Unfortunately, so far from finding the French people prepared to enlarge and liberalize the system established in 1860, we have to deal with a determined backward movement towards protectionist ideas." Listen to these emphatic words, ye who would have us believe that the Free Trade system is gaining ground in the civilized world; and consider what effect the example of France is likely to have on other nations. What is the probable future of a system which France, Germany and the United States of America have definitely and permanently repudiated? What presumption there is on the part of those who would have us believe that in adopting Protection we are going against the spirit of the age, and against the example of the most enlightened nations. The truth of the matter is that, while on the Protectionist side we find the United States of America, and all the great powers of the European Continent, England remains to-day the solitary example of a great commercial nation adhering to Free Trade. The smaller nations of Europe do not count for much, and countries outside of Europe, which are without manufactures, and which are backward in their progress, need not be counted at all. It is scarcely to be expected that efforts for a new Anglo-French treaty will wholly fail, the probability being that ere six months be past some arrangement or other will have been arrived at. The French Government may think it worth while to make concessions to England, for political if not for economic reasons. France does not wish to stand alone among the Powers, and may be looking forward to a time when the neutrality, if not the alliance, of England, might be of great importance. The friendly feeling between the two countries has been growing of late, and, as above said, political reasons may prevail, even though economic reasons draw the other way. The old treaty had its origin, not so much in any conversion of the late Emperor Napoleon to Free Trade views, as in his policy of political co-operation with England. However it came about, it happened that he and the late Lord Palmerston had a European policy upon which they agreed together; and it is certain that, though the commercial motive was stronger in England, the political motive was the real determining influence in France. The motive political is probably as strong now as it was then, and it is likely enough that French Protectionists may be willing to concede a good deal for the sake of keeping up friendly relations with England. England, for her part, has nothing to concede, having already conceded everything, or almost everything. Mr. Gladstone has, indeed, had it in contemplation to make certain reductions in the wine duties, which would be favourable to France; but this he had to abandon for the present, pending the result of negotiations. What sort of a treaty, if any, may be agreed upon within six months, remains to be seen; but meantime let Free Traders on this side the Atlantic "draw in their horns" a little, and cease boasting to us that their favourite system is that of the civilized and commercial world.

Two Canadian tobacco factories are to be established shortly at St. Charles, Que.

THE CATTLE TRADE

A new Order-in-Council has been issued regulating the export cattle trade, so far as vessels that have carried cattle from United States ports are concerned. The previous order (which provides that no vessel shall embark cattle at a Canadian port that has carried cattle from a United States port until after the lapse of thirty days, and then only after a thorough cleansing, under the superintendence of the inspecting officer) remains in force. Any vessel upon which has been found cattle suffering from the foot and mouth disease shall not be at liberty to carry cattle from a Canadian port until after the lapse of sixty days, and then only after a thorough cleansing has been effected. Three vessels that have carried cattle suffering from Pleuro-pneumonia shall not embark cattle at a Canadian port until after the lapse of ninety days, and a thorough cleansing of the vessel.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

The North American (published at Philadelphia) says: "It is a dismal picture which the hoop iron manufacturers of this country have presented to the notice of the Secretary of the Treasury. Mills closed, operatives starving and capital idle, because foreign producers are allowed to undersell in our home markets, for home consumption, important items of commercial need. In the spirit of that vital principle of a republic, protection to native industry, Secretary Wixson ought to look into those Treasury rulings promptly."

The following is a statement of the revenue of some of the smaller colonies: Fiji, in 1879, was £76,609, and the expenditure £71,108, on December 31, 1879, the excess of liabilities over assets was £169,764. The revenue of Gambia in 1879, was £28,523, and the expenditure £20,649; on December 31 the excess of assets over liabilities was £13,630. In St. Helena the revenue was £14,184, and the expenditure, £12,453; the excess of liabilities over assets was £8,538. Sierra Leone had a revenue of £74,330, and expenditure £59,801; the excess of liabilities was £4,594. The Transvaal revenue was £93,408, and the expenditure £177,595; excess of liabilities over assets, £410,770.

In the Pall Mall Gazette of the 31st of March we read: "A large meeting of workmen was held in the Assembly Hall, Mile-end-road last night, to denounce the bounties granted by certain continental Governments to the sugar refining industry in their respective countries, and to demand the imposition of a countervailing duty on sugar imported from these countries and competing advantageously with sugar refined here. Lord CLAUD HAMILTON, M.P., president, and Mr. RITCHIE, M.P., Mr. STEWART, M.P., and Mr. T. THORNTON, M.P., were among the speakers. Several letters of apology were read. One from Lord SALISBURY expressed the hope that means might be found to mitigate the injury inflicted upon the industry, while the Earl of DUNDEE and Mr. FAWCETT said they could not advise the adoption of retaliatory duties."

An English exchange says a pamphlet recently published by M. MALACZE gives an interesting account of the French school savings banks—an institution of which France up to the present time can boast of having a monopoly. In the year 1848 savings banks were established in upwards of 10,440 schools, and since that time they have rapidly increased, particularly in the southern and central departments. In that of Aube the number of banks has risen from 272 to 337, and deposits from 4,815 to 6,077, the actual moneys being 23,850 f. in 1878 and 45,918 f. at the end of 1879. In Euro et Loire there were but thirty banks in 1877, and ninety-four in 1879, with 2,512 scholars owing banking accounts amounting to 402,405 francs in the aggregate. In Hérault the number of banks had increased in one year from 97 to 207, of accounts, from 1,768 to 2,845, and of moneys, from 12,730 to 21,480 francs. In departments in which this useful system had not taken root, the education inspectors were very energetic and successful in encouraging it, particularly in the rural districts of Haute-Alpes, Ardèche, Creuse, Dordogne, and Haute-Garonne, which at the present time number ninety school banks, of

which twenty-eight are in the city of Toulouse. There is a large natural instinct towards thrift in the French peasantry, and such institutions as these will tend, more than any other, to develop it in the young.

From the Pall Mall Gazette we obtain the following particulars respecting the operations of industrial and provident societies in the United Kingdom in 1879. The societies in England and Wales numbered 957, and their members 504,117. The capital amounted to £5,374,179, with £1,324,970 on loan and deposit. The sales of goods amounted in the year to £7,816,037, and the profits to £1,691,302, obtained at an expense in trade charges calculated at £1,453,308. The stocks at the end of the year were valued at £2,480,044. The societies of Scotland and Ireland are classified separately. In Scotland there were 232 societies, with 98,907 members, a share capital of £373,728, and a borrowed capital of £171,173. The transactions amounted to £2,649,533, the profits to £238,152, the trade charges to £182,450. In Ireland there are only six societies, with 637 members and £7,815 capital, of which £400 was a loan. The net profits are set down at £1,482. Over 100 of the societies in England and Wales neglected to make returns, 62 societies were dissolved, and 42 new ones registered in 1879. In Ireland three societies were broken up. The profits made by single societies of course varied considerably in amount, the Civil Service Supply Association of London, taking the lead with £110,420.

CANADA'S MANUFACTURES.

Listowel has a glove factory making 60 different styles of gloves and mitts.

Vanstone Brothers, of Brussels, shipped 650 barrels of flour to Antigonish, Nova Scotia, the other day.

The Pioneer Beet Sugar Company, of Cotirock, has just received twenty-two thousand pounds of sugar beet seed imported by them from Germany.

Something less than a year ago, about twenty gentlemen, of Brampton and vicinity, organized the Haggert Brothers Manufacturing Company at that place, to carry on upon an enlarged scale the business of making agricultural implements, etc., which was begun by Messrs. Haggert Bros. over thirty years since. And a very complete and handsome place they have, worthy of the reputation established by the firm. The authorized capital is \$250,000 (Messrs. Haggert & Cochrane holding \$95,000 of it) and \$114,000 has been paid up. So successful has the company been that the profits of five months, working up to end of 1880, were no less than of \$11,497. A dividend at the rate of 12 per cent. annually was declared and \$5,500 placed to Rest and Plant Guarantee Funds, which were further increased by a voluntary contribution of \$4,750, being the amount of Messrs. Haggert & Cochrane's dividend for the five months, certainly a very unusual piece of generosity.—Moncton Times.

A new mining company has just been formed in Quebec, called the Quebec Mining Company, with its head office in Montreal. Its object is to work, by hydraulic power, certain gold properties in the Des Plantes, St. Francis and Boyer rivers. Its capital is \$300,000 in 100,000 shares of \$3 each. A sufficient amount of stock has been sold to open operations at once.—Witness.

A Montreal telegram says the amount paid by the Montreal parties for the Kingston locomotive works was \$75,000, the purchasers to assume the debts of the concern.—Wig.

An American capitalist, with an American engineer, an American foreman and American workmen, is coming to St. Stephen to start a cotton mill. Americans are arriving in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton every few days to engage in mining enterprises. A number of Americans have come on to work in Moncton industries and more are being negotiated for at the present time. Sixty-four persons landed at St. John from the American boat one day last week. All the indications are that taking next fall with this spring (there was a great reaction last fall to the spring exodus) the figures will be in favour of the provinces, if anything.—Moncton Times.

In an article on manufacturing in the Maritime Provinces, the Moncton Times says: "A very important movement in the direction of manufac-

turing is on foot in Hants County. As the spring is coming on, the elements of the various Ontario and American firms engaged in the manufacture of agricultural implements are preparing for business, some Hants gentlemen were struck with the idea that there is an opening for an agricultural implement factory in their province. The result has been the formation of a company with \$150,000 capital of which Messrs. E. Churchill & Co. are an enterprising firm of Hants-County down for \$10,000. It appears to be \$10,000 worth of the larger class agricultural implements alone to be sold in Nova Scotia each year, not taking into account the sales in Prince Edward Island, which are probably larger still according to population, and the very large sales in New Brunswick of thousand mowing machines and each year, three thousand horse rake, eight hundred reapers, and so on, and there is no good reason why all the Maritime Provinces should not be supplied with agricultural implements manufactured within their borders.

On Tuesday afternoon Mr. Gagnon, Montreal, representing a company of capitalists who contemplate the erection of a large elevator, arrived in Prescott for the purpose of examining sites, obtaining information, etc. While in Prescott he will be met by members of the Council and the leading local capitalists, after which it is likely a public meeting will be called to see what action the town shall take in the matter.

Messrs. Ward & Cairns, of Prescott, have been awarded the contract for erecting the addition to the Stormont Cotton Company's mill at Cornwall. The estimated cost of the addition is over \$60,000.

The Moncton Times says Messrs. Shaw & Murphy (of Humpfrey's mills, Moncton Parish) have for some time been corresponding with the makers of machinery used in woolen mills, with the idea of ascertaining the probable cost, etc., of a new departure in the direction of spinning and weaving. They have interviewed Mr. Walker, the English gentleman who has been in the province in connexion with the sale of machinery for cotton mills, who is willing to guarantee all the machinery that they may require, but nothing definite has as yet transpired. The new line of manufacture would embrace various kinds of woollen goods, and of course the extent of the operations would only be limited by the demand. There are excellent facilities on the premises for the establishment of a woolen mill. The water power is abundant, and the mills being situated close by the main line of the Intercolonial, there are excellent facilities for shipping. The gentlemen who have the matter in hand are both highly practical men, and should they undertake the establishment of a woolen mill there is no doubt it would soon become an important labor employing industry, proving profitable both to the promoters and the community. The proprietors of the Port Eglon (Westmoreland County) Woolen Mills, Messrs. John Read & Sons, contemplate further additions and improvements to their factory, necessitated by a continuous and rapidly increasing business. They have ordered a new 75-horse power engine, and will erect a large building for a dye house and office. The firm are shipping tweeds to the Upper Provinces, having made a shipment of 200 webs a short time ago. These goods are pronounced to be of very superior manufacture. When the Cape Tormentine Railway is built it will be a great accommodation to the Messrs. Read as well as the entire community. The road is a necessity and should be built.

The Montreal Cotton Company paid the first of their quarterly dividends of 10 per cent. on the 4th inst.

In the House of Lords on Friday last the Duke of Argyll said he heartily approved of every measure which would tend to increase the ownership of land in Ireland. He thought the Government's scheme tended to paralyze the ownership of land by placing it under limitations unknown in any civilized country. Under this scheme neither landlord nor tenant would be owner, but the ownership would be in commission or abeyance. This would result injuriously to agricultural interests in any country and especially so in Ireland. He felt he could not, as an honest man, be responsible for recommending the scheme, as a whole, to Parliament. He regretted to separate himself from his friends, especially Unionists.