

lbs.) What do the above comparisons and statements really prove? That the Canadian prices for refined sugar were moderate and fair prices? Not a bit of it, but merely that they were lower than the outrageous prices which are being imposed upon United States consumers by the gigantic extortion-monopoly called "The American Sugar-Refining Co.," with its watered stock of \$75,000,000, and whose vile extortions are now being exposed and universally condemned. The real test as to the fairness of the prices for granulated sugar is their relation to the cost of the raw sugar, and their cheapness or dearthness is to be judged by the cost at which similar sugars could be laid down delivered in Canada, from Great Britain or other countries, if free of duty. London granulated sugar is equal, if not superior, in quality to best Canadian or United States granulated. At the average price in London for the year 1892 this sugar could have been laid down in Montreal, free of duty, at a shade under \$4.00 per 100 lbs. According to Mr. Bowell's own figures, the average price of Canadian granulated in Montreal, during same year was \$4.35. The difference is equal to \$7.00 per ton, making about \$1,000,000 which the consumers of Canada contributed to four refineries, for expending about the same amount in Canadian wages, fuel, etc. Whatever Mr. Bowell may think of it, the consumers must think that this branch of the policy must be lopped off, or at least severely trimmed.

Mr. Bowell is equally unfortunate in his illustration used to refute the alleged discrimination of the Canadian tariff against Great Britain. Instead of confining his argument to the fact that the largest proportion of our imports from the United States consists of raw material in which Great Britain can have no interest; whereas nearly all of our imports from Great Britain consist of manufactured goods admitted on same terms as similar goods from the United States, he endeavours to explain away the distinction by a mis-statement of facts. He says: "It arose from the crediting to the United States of large importations which were not the product of that country, and which were imported into Canada free." Our entire imports from the United States during the year 1891-1892 amounted to \$62,590,459. The United States Annual Report on Commerce and Navigation shows that the value of all the foreign merchandise exported from that country to Canada, in that year, was \$2,593,213. This forms little over 4 per cent. of our imports. A very much larger per centage of our imports from Great Britain consists of foreign merchandise. There is no point established by Mr. Bowell's illustration.

Mr. Bowell is still more unfortunate in his attempt to prove the necessity of long continuance for protection, by the experience of the United States. He assumes that the continuance of protection was necessary to and has really been the cause of that nation's prosperity. From his long experience as Minister of Customs, Mr. Bowell must have observed that in about one-half of the classes of manufactured goods imported into Canada from the United States, the prices there are as low as in free trade England. Granted that the capital, skill and experience engaged in these successful industries were

attracted to them by early protection, it is equally clear that they do not now require any protection. Granted also that a long continuance of protection was necessary to the success accomplished, it does not follow that a similar long continuance of protection is necessary in Canada, because our manufacturers are reaping the benefit of all the experience and improvements which have been gained there for industries, which, by nature of the material employed or by their adaptation to Canadian talent, may be considered indigenous and likely to prove successful, it may be to the general interest to assist them by protection or otherwise, through the initial difficulties of their early years; but no industry which is worth maintaining will require or should obtain any long continued assistance.

It is to be hoped that Mr. Bowell and his colleagues will, after careful investigation, discover many mouldering and rotten branches, and be able to recommend a severe pruning and lopping. The people are beginning to realize that the branches bearing bad fruit are larger than those bearing good fruit, and unless our chief gardeners can trim the tree into fair proportion, the public will soon order that the whole tree be cut down.

ROBERT H. LAWDER.

TO MISS MABEL.

You asked me, Miss Mabel, to write you some verses
And nothing before such a pleasure I'd choose,
Did not I feel inwardly that the reverse is
Exactly the case with my diffident Muse.

Full far have I gone as a mortal might wander
To Erato's feet and Prometheus' rock;
The sweet Muse admitted your graces beyond her,
The other declared I'd be killed by the shock.

I thought then if love could not give me some verses,
Her sister perchance Polyhymnia might;
I sought out the mount where the Goddess rehearses
Submitted my prayer and got ready to write.

"Alas," she exclaimed, "the presumption of mortals!"
(The phrase I've just quoted is straight from the Muse)
And added, as tearful I passed through her portals,
"This language is nothing to what I might use."

Yes, soon as I told her that you were the fair one
Of whom my desire would lead me to write,
She bid me ascend to Olympus, and there one
Might gather the fire such lines to indite.

But through the wide range of her lyric dominion
She said that no language had ever been known
To faintly express (I but give her opinion)
Such graces as those you may claim for your own.

To Jove then I went to present my petition
High up where the thunderings clamor the air,
Believing that there some successful fruition
Could scarce fail to be the result of my prayer.

But soon as your name I attempted to mention

He darkened his brow and he swore by all odds
The thing was beyond his divine comprehension
He'd call into conclave the rest of the gods,
And give it their serious consideration
(This sounds more like Mowat than Jove I'll admit)
Then straightway dismissed me while shook with vibration
The mount of Olympus as if in a fit.
I've waited, and waited, and waited, and waited,
Believe me, Miss Mabel, I've waited an age,
Still hoping the answer though somewhat belated
Would reach me in time to go down on this page.

Alas the unfounded presumption of mortals
(The phrase is my own now I know it by rote)
No answer comes through the Olympian Portals,
Not even a messenger boy with a note.

If all of the gods not to mention the Muses
Find language to fail a description so rare,
You can't blame a mortal like me who refuses
To try what the gods have resigned in despair.

STUART LIVINGSTON.

PARIS LETTER.

The First of May will be as pacific as heretofore; the authorities will not permit any open air marchings, and so there will be no skulls to crack. The men of action, are only active, when they can count upon a following, which they cannot in the present instance do. As nothing is to be obtained by marching up the hill, and then marching down again, like a certain French monarch, and since barricades are unashionable, we shall have peace within our walls. Then there is nothing to stir the stones of Paris to rise and mutiny. The working classes are suffering, just as are capitalists, and the common douche for both is, that in every county trade is stagnant. Panmism is not sufficient to create an insurrection, and besides the general elections will balance the political accounts of used up public men. France is discussing her claim to the honour of having invented the First of May; they were the Dutch Socialists who have created the institution. In France there is no agrarian Socialism, and so long as the peasants hold aloof, there is no danger for property. Those who have battled all their lives to win a little material prosperity, will know how to defend it. In Italy, farm labourers and small farmers are ripe for insurrection; the former are under paid—only 16 sous per day wages. The latter are ground by rack rent landlords and death's head usurers.

Public opinion is really delighted that M. Turpin, the inventor of melinite, has been pardoned by M. Carnot, on the recommendation of the new Minister of Justice. Never was clemency more deserved. His incarceration was the personal revenge of the once powerful de Freycinet, who like others, has been destroyed by Panama. To prevent Turpin from "blowing" upon some scandals connected with the loose and questionable administration of War Minister, M. de Freycinet, Turpin was simply gagged to enforce his silence, above all respecting the spy Tripone, now in prison, and who apparently bought and sold military secrets for both France and England. With all his prudence and