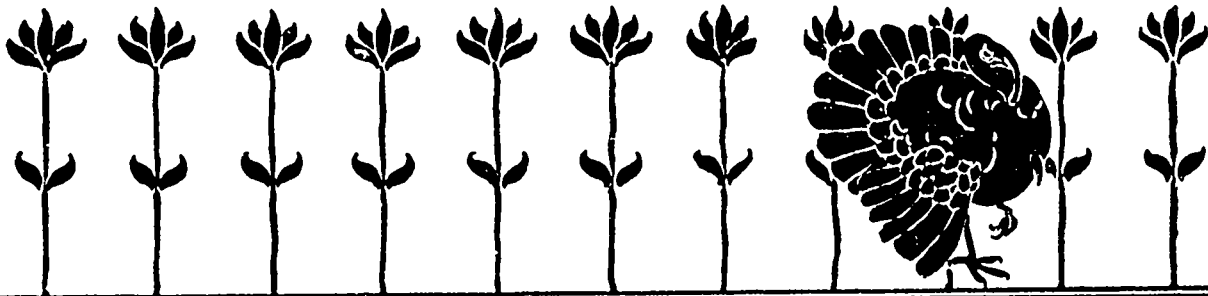


# THE DRY GOODS REVIEW

IN THE INTERESTS OF THE DRY GOODS, MILLINERY, CLOTHING AND HAT TRADE



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## OUR SILVER ALL RIGHT.

IN going round among the business men of Canada it is noticeable that some of them are paying their bills, as far as possible, in silver. This tendency evidently arises from the silver scare south of us. It is a natural desire to dispose of all American silver while it still can be disposed of, but the feeling of uneasiness in regard to our own silver is surely without reasonable foundation.

To Canadians and to most citizens of the United States also the free silver cry is somewhat childish. The free coinage advocate, with his fifty-cent dollar, is much like the child who would rather have five coppers than a five-cent piece. That part of the question Canadians are settled on. What does interest Canadians is what effect the election of the free silver candidates would have on our currency. It can be answered in one word—none. Silver passes for its stamped value, not because of the value of the silver, but on account of the Government stamp, which practically means that the Government will redeem the silver with gold if so desired. As long then as a Government does not issue more silver than it can redeem, silver coin is well worth its stamped value. The Canadian Government can redeem its silver. The action of the people in the United States cannot affect the standing of our own Government in this respect in the slightest degree.

## THE SENATE.

A DOZEN first class business men added to the Senate would tend greatly to remove the dis-esteem in which that body is held. The choice of Mr. Thibaudeau is in the right direction. If the Senate contained men like Mr. Gault, Mr. Brock, Mr. Greenshields, and others of the same kind, the country would look with interest to hear what they would say on great commercial issues. But think of the present condition of things. Next year the tariff question comes up. Does anyone expect a debate of any moment on tariff policy in the Senate? Although the second chamber cannot veto a financial measure under our constitution, the views of its members ought to have great weight in the country. At present it carries no influence whatsoever. The death of Sir David Macpherson created an Ontario vacancy the other day, and a man who has just come from Ottawa tells THE REVIEW that the lobbying for the position by professional politicians is appalling. As matters stand, the tariff debate in the Commons next year will be conducted chiefly by lawyers and professional politicians. We would like to know how long the merchants of the country are going to stand this sort of thing? The remedy is in their own hands.

## THE LOCAL MERCHANT.

WE have heard more complaints than usual this summer, from readers in different parts of Canada, of local residents going to large cities to buy retail. In towns which have steamboat as well as train connection with the larger centres a great many boat excursions are organized during August, and these have been productive of much city buying. Not only do people purchase for themselves, but they will undertake to do so for friends who remain at home, and thus they come back laden with parcels.

This practice is, of course, grossly unfair to the local merchant, who has a right to expect the local trade. He is supposed to pay his taxes promptly, to keep a good store, to promote the various interests of the town in which he lives. Yet, in return, his townsmen are not willing to do their share. No doubt