

## CANADA DOING FOR HERSELF.

THE *Canadian Gazette* (London, England, Oct. 7) thus invites John Bull's attention to the fact that Canada can do a great deal more for herself than he imagines:—Of axes and general tools a rather striking collection may be seen in the Machinery Hall. The *Times* was good enough to inform its readers recently that the Canadian demand for axes, chisels, and the like was met from the United States, at the same time urging English manufacturers to pay more attention to this field. Unfortunately, the leading journal started on a wrong hypothesis, which renders its advice of no value, for Canadians are fully competent to supply their own needs in this direction. Indeed, at the Philadelphia Centenary Exhibition the Canadian display of tools justly aroused much surprise, even when compared with those sent by English and United States manufacturers: and no one will venture to say that the Canadian methods of manufacture have in any way fallen back, or indeed failed to keep pace with the times, in the interval between then and now. The arrangement of this class of exhibits is in many cases effectively managed on the east and south walls of the Machinery Hall, so that a good idea of the implements is obtainable. Among the exhibitors the following may be mentioned:—Mr. William Campbell, of St. John, New Brunswick; Mr. Josiah Fowler, also of St. John, New Brunswick; Messrs. Frothingham & Workman, of Montreal; Mr. Gawen Gilmore, of Montreal; Mr. O. V. Goulette, of Gananoque; the Halifax (Nova Scotia) Manufacturing Company; Messrs. H. R. Ives & Co., of Montreal; Messrs. Warnock & Co., of Galt; the Welland Vale Manufacturing Company, of St. Catharines; Messrs. Wilson Brothers, of Merritton; Mr. R. T. Wilson, of Dundas, and Messrs. Wintermute & Still, of Tilbury Centre.

## WHEAT PRICES.

THE *Mail* gives the following figures, showing how present prices for wheat compare with the prices of eight years ago. On October 14, 1878, the prices of spring wheat in Toronto, Chicago, and Liverpool, stood thus:

Toronto .....	\$ .65
Chicago .....	.78
Liverpool .....	1.36

Spring wheat in Toronto was just seventy-one cents lower than at Liverpool, and thirteen cents lower than at Chicago.

On October 14, 1886, the corresponding date for the present year, the prices were:

Toronto .....	73 cents
Chicago .....	72½ "
Liverpool .....	97 "

Spring wheat in Toronto was thus but twenty-four cents lower than at Liverpool, and just half a cent higher than at Chicago. Let us put it in another way: spring wheat is now eight cents higher in Toronto, five and a half cents higher in Chicago, and thirty-nine cents lower in Liverpool than it was on the same date in 1878. If the prices were relatively as low in Toronto, compared with the Liverpool price, in 1886 as in 1878, spring wheat would just bring forty-eight cents in Toronto to-day. It is in the face of these facts that the farmer is told the National Policy has injured him by causing the price of his wheat to be low.

## RECIPROCITY.

(From the *Toronto World*.)

WHEN it was published that the draft of a new Reciprocity Treaty had actually been framed in London, and that a copy had been received by the Dominion Government for consideration, semi-official denials came thick and fast. In spite of the denials we ventured the opinion that the story was substantially true, and that there was genuine fire underneath all the smoke. And it looks as if this estimate of the report were about to be proved correct. The *Boston Globe* (quoted by its Toronto namesake) publishes a special cable from London, giving the substance of the Canadian Government's alleged despatch objecting to the Draft Treaty, and our city contemporary thinks that the same has every appearance of being genuine. The main objection is simply this: that while Canada will be happy to accept reciprocity in natural products, as under the old treaty, the inclusion of manufactured goods is out of the question. In 1879 Canada entered upon a new era, in the adoption of a protective system. Under this policy manufactures have grown up and expanded, and the idea of exposing them to be crushed out by free trade cannot be entertained.

Thereupon the *Toronto Globe* falls foul of the Macdonald Government, which it says is opposed to reciprocity, because that would be fatal to the N.P. We agree that it would most certainly be fatal to the N.P., were manufactured goods to any extent included in the free schedule. If articles comprising our leading manufactures generally were included, the most important Canadian factories would close their doors in short order. Time and again have we explained in these columns what is the main reason why this must be so; but we may as well lay our account with it that the explanation will have to be very frequently repeated, for the benefit of the "stupid party" in Canada.

Let us suppose, then, that a pretty extensive free schedule of manufactured articles has been agreed upon, all which are to pass duty free, from Canada into the United States, and *vice versa*. "Is not that perfectly fair," you will say, "just the same for both sides; what objection can there be to that?" We reply that it is most emphatically *not* just the same for both sides—no, "not by a long chalk." To our neighbors the result would be that they would have to admit free all *Canadian* manufactures named in the schedule, but not the manufactures of any other country whatever. Canadian manufactures only, and none other, would thus be admitted free in virtue of the treaty. But on our side the difference would be something tremendous. Canada being a British colony, cannot collect duties on British goods while admitting the same kinds of goods free when coming from a foreign country. Such a treaty, therefore, would open our markets, not only to American products, but to British products as well. But even this is not all, for British export warehouses are filled, not alone with goods of home production, but with goods from France, Belgium, Germany, and elsewhere on the continent of Europe. To distinguish the latter from British-made goods is *mostly* impossible; and all the more so from the fact that the market is flooded with continental goods, got up expressly in imitation of saleable British makes. This is something to the truth of which our own importers and buyers can abundantly testify. And Great Britain, be it remembered, admits free the manufactures of the whole world, except in cases where a customs duty on the imported article is necessary to balance an excise duty on the home product. The result would be that, whereas our neighbors would be opening their ports to *Canada only*, we would be opening our ports to *Great Britain as well, and through Great Britain to all the world besides*.

Under the former Reciprocity Treaty this difficulty did not occur. For, although the articles scheduled free from the States had also to be free when imported from the Mother Country, yet our interests were not affected, inasmuch as the scheduled articles were all such as we do not import from