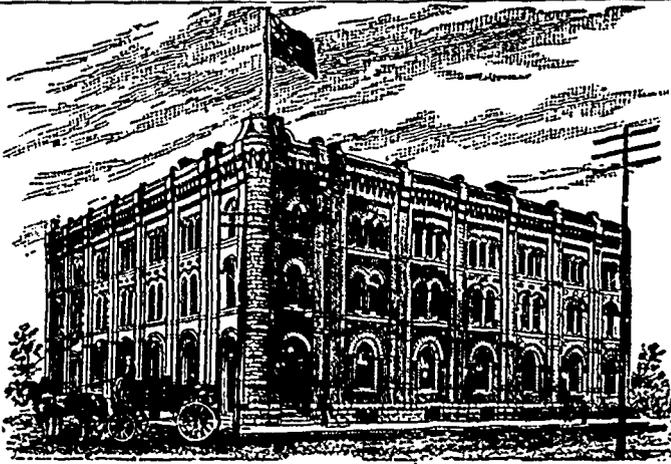


GOODS SOLD TO THE
TRADE ONLY.GOODS SOLD TO THE
TRADE ONLY.

G. F. & J. GALT,

DIRECT IMPORTERS

TEAS, SUGARS, WINES, LIQUORS and GENERAL GROCERIES
CORNER PRINCESS AND BANNATYNE STREETS, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

EVERY day it becomes more apparent, that the forthcoming International American Congress is a gathering called together through the influence of United States trade interests, and for one purpose above others, namely to see by what means the export business of the great republic to other American countries can be increased without infringing upon the policy of national selfishness in matters of tariff, which the political party now in power there seem determined to adhere to. Canada has had long experience this selfishness on the part of its nearest neighbors, and the duties imposed upon ores mined in other countries, when entering the U. S. have recently given Mexico a taste of the same commodity. How to trade with all their neighbors, and keep the trading all on one side, is certainly a knotty problem to solve, and there is not much hope, that it will be solved at the coming congress of representatives, from different countries in America. A much shorter and more certain way of bringing the United States to the position, it should occupy as an exporter of manufactured goods, lies in the reduction and practical removal of its tariff, on such goods. That tariff has now become so tangled that in a multitude of instances, the tariff intended to protect one manufacturer, is a tax upon the raw material required by another, and all tending to increase the cost of production. Under such a system the United States never cannot and never will, take the rank it ought to hold as an exporter of manufactures, and any attempts to re weave, or re-tinker the tangled muddle, will only furnish laughing stock for clear-headed political economists, and a source of gain at the public expense for political mountebanks. At the present time the United States, is the heaviest exporter of any nation in the world of the products of field and forest, which her legislators are powerless to change the value of by any tariff legislation and which being ruled in price by foreign market quotations are literally unprotected by tariff. When her manufactures, are in a similar position, their exports will be in proportion, and the nearer they approach that state, the more their exports will increase. The fact that

after nearly thirty years of tariff tinkering, a nation of sixty millions of people, claiming to be the most progressive in the world, are powerless to compete with their manufacture in foreign markets, should suggest that some change of policy in that respect is necessary.

THE recent fire at Shoal Lake, Man., which wiped out the best of the business portion of the town seems to have brought home too late lessons that should have been learned in time to save regrets. As usual the amount of insurance on the property burned is fractionally small when compared with the loss sustained. Some merchants there, who were a week ago worth several thousand dollars, are to-day worth what the leniency of their creditors will allow them. The old story comes to the surface again. High insurance premiums were demanded, as is customary in new western towns, where fire prevention is a matter but poorly considered, and merchants who found it necessary to carry heavy stocks followed a false economy in refusing to insure to an extent that would keep them even comparatively safe, and the folly of their fancied economy they have discovered only after fire has brought heavy loss, if not absolute business ruin. This is one phase of their folly, and if it ended here they would not be so culpable. But in the Shoal Lake fire, as in all other large fires in the smaller towns of Manitoba, that which took place in Holland excepted, the uninsured or inadequately insured sufferers bring not only loss to themselves but in some instances loss to their creditors. If a table covering the past five years in Manitoba were made out, showing how many burned out country merchants were forced into insolvency by their fire losses, it would show that a burn out practically meant insolvency, there would be no more exceptions than are allowed in any general rule. Indeed, a safe insurance is most general among merchants considered financially weak who are compelled to keep well insured by their creditors. Such pressure the creditor can put upon a customer who has to ask favors at times, but the competition for the business of

GLOX!

We have just received one car load of the Best American Clocks which will be Sold at below Montreal Prices.

Call and get quotations or send for Samples.

W. F. DOLL,

Wholesale Jeweler,

525 Main Street, WINNIPEG

merchants considered financially solid is too keen to allow of any such interference in the management of their affairs. It does seem as if the cure for the evil lay entirely in the hands of the country merchant, and those doing business with him should not shrink from stigmatizing failure to insure to an extent sufficient to cover liabilities as simply a piece of criminal negligence, for it is such in a moral sense, whether it is in a legal one or not.

THE *Hamilton Spectator*, comments as follows on the *Edmonton Bulletin's* remarks on Mormons in Alberta:—"The Mormons in the Northwest are there because they were not permitted to do as they pleased in Utah. They come to Canada in the hope that they would be allowed to do as they pleased here. They have already asked the Dominion Government for special privileges, and if the *Empire* and others continue to encourage them they will ask for more. The *Edmonton Bulletin*, knowing the history of the Mormon church has good reason for the alarm it professes. It will not do to treat this matter lightly. Canada should have no use for any exclusive body of people. Mormons will not assimilate with the rest of the people, and if they are encouraged to come to Canada in considerable numbers they will be sure to make trouble. It is to be hoped that the Government does not look so lightly upon the *Bulletin's* alarm as the *Empire* does."

Some time since we drew the attention of the Federal authorities to the encroachments that would probably be attempted by these people when they were sufficiently strong in numbers, to render any irregular attempt on the part of the authorities to curtail special privileges futile. The history of these people, is sufficient to cause the alarm that is now expressed in the west, leaving out of the question the report of their adopting their religious principle, in this country. This problem was an extremely knotty one for the United States authorities to deal with, and their suppression for infraction of the laws of that country was not accomplished without considerable bloodshed. It behooves the Dominion Government to keep a strict watch upon these exiles, and see to it that they conform to the laws of this their adopted country.