

a ¼d. Every dairy in Great Britain would reap an advance in price. Every farm, farmer, and farm laborer would feel its influence, in price of land, cows, milk, and wages. The people of the United Kingdom would pay for this in the advance. The 1d. duty would be paid by the importer, who would get ½d. back in lower prices from the foreign countries who competed against British farmers and the preferred colonies.

Thus the 150 lbs. per family would cost only 6s. 3d. higher per year, and not 12s. 6d. Against this 6s. 3d. a year would ever be the £1 12s. 6d. a year saved by free tea.

The mother of the family that could afford to use butter, would see on the breakfast table free tea and a yearly saving of £1 12s. 6d. taxed butter, and a loss of 6s. 3d. to 12s. 6d. a year. More than that, the butter may come from her own kith and kin in Canada or New Zealand, and from the way the boy is doing out there, the father decides that if they do leave their Sussex home, or the London flat, they will go to Canada and not to the United States.

Britain has vast interests in India and Ceylon, which two countries shipped in 1901, 328,011,462 lbs. of tea. The low prices ruling in Britain on account of the abolition of the 6d. a lb. duty, would so increase the demand for tea that every planter in Ceylon and India would feel the advantage. This also would assist British capital in shipping, by providing more cargo.

*Tobacco.*—The duty on tobacco in 1901 drew £10,567,705 out of the 42,000,000 people in Britain, about £1 10s. per family of six. As the work-people of the United Kingdom consume considerable tobacco, it is within the mark to say that the average working-class family pays yearly £2 duty on tobacco.

*Wine*, which is the luxury of the middle and upper classes, returned in 1901 only £1,450,000 duty.

The enormous duty of 3s. to 5s. 6d. per lb. on tobacco, paid mainly by laborers, mechanics, and farmers, seems an injustice compared with the duty on wine.

1 gallon wine, in bottles, valued at £1 15s. (that is, 15 per cent.), pays 4s. to 6s. per gallon duty.

10 lbs. of tobacco, valued at 6d. per lb., equal to 5s. (that is over 600 per cent.), pays 3s. 4d. per lb. duty.

It is reasonable to ask that the duty on tobacco be reduced one-half, giving a 50 per cent. preference to the colonies, which exported 136,187 cwt. tobacco in 1901.

Raise the wine duty at least 100 per cent., and even then the man who consumes it would not be contributing as much to the Treasury as does the miner, the factory hand, or the mechanic.

On what ground can the British statesman tax the workingman's necessary, tea, and his luxury, tobacco, £16,360,000, and at the same time tax the luxuries of the well-to-do, cocoa, coffee, and wines, only £1,864,000?

This is manifestly so unjust to the labor element of the United Kingdom, and so unwise to the agriculturists of the colonies, that it should require only the exposé to have it changed.

The North American colony has just begun to feel the word "Canadian." Up to 1880 Canada had great faith, in fact quite a "Provincial" trust in the good sense and kindly politics of the different British statesmen who guided colonial affairs.

We are now beginning to feel that Great Britain's trade interests with the United States appear to her too great to be disturbed. We realize that the British merchant and farmer are insular. Hedged around by a wall of water, they have stumbled forward, looking back to Cobden. The German economists have urged them on, secretly glad of this Cobden policy. The Yankees have praised the open door which permits them to pour numerous manufactures into London and other cities.

As we note the decline of Britain's exports from £291,200,000 in 1900, to £283,540,000 in 1902; the £6,000,000 increase in imports during the same period, and the excess of imports over exports (some £160,000,000 a year for the last ten years), we are led to believe that there must be a steady drain on capital—that Britain is living on her principal.

Her total entered and cleared tonnage is