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Artist and Editor Associate Editor

J. W. Bengough. PHILLIPS THOMPSON.



ON THE artoons.

UNDER THE THUMB. The London Times advises Canada to declare frankly for Free Trade, as the most effective reply to the McKinley Bill. In this the Times re-echoes the counsel given a few weeks ago by GRIP and is accordingly sound,

It cannot be doubted that straight-out Free Trade would be money in the pockets of the consumers of Canada, for it would vastly cheapen living, and we verily believe it would at the same time prove a benefit to all legitimate manufactures in the coun-Of course we would have to resort to direct taxation for revenue—and that, we are aware, is tantamount to suicide in the opinion of the superstitious. It is high time the superstition opinion of the superstitious. It is high time the superstition were banished, and nothing apparently will kill it but a practical demonstration of the advantage of knowing precisely how much taxes we are paying. But is Sir John in a position to avail himself of the sound advice tendered him by Mr. John Bull? Hardly. He is very much "in the hands of his friends" of the Red Parlor, and they, extra superloyal though they are to a man, are desperately set against the old flag in so far as it represents Free Trade sentiments: Sir John, being a practical statesman, seems to have decided that, right or wrong, it will pay him better to stand by the protected interests and their available election wallet, than

to indulge in any old-fashioned chivalry as the friend and protector of the people. There is an exact parallel between the Tory parties of Canada and the United States in reference to the question of the moment—McKinley and his pals, who were elected on a tariff reduction platform, have raised the rates by way of paying back the "fat fried out of the monopolists," and Sir John and his colleagues are, for similar reasons, estopped from laying hands upon our own tariff, except to increase it.

An Incidental Smash.-It has been well said that no man can deliberately set out to injure others without injuring himself.
Whether this rule is invariable in the case of individuals, it certainly applies without exception to nations who use tariffs as offensive weapons. Before the McKinley Bill has run its course it will be manifest enough that its principal victim is Uncle Sam himself. Already, from one end of the broad Republic to the other, we can hear a monotonous growl of discontent. Every week adds to the strength of the chorus, as new developments of the fraud and sham of Protection become clear to the people. It will culminate in a roar of rage before long, which will find some practical expression at the polls.

> N additional scrap of evidence, going to prove that the high Protectionists have no confidence in their own system, comes in the shape of an editorial in last Thursday's World. That learned journal thinks "there is sense in the communication recently addressed to the London Times, to the effect that if Canada seizes the opportunity to place tin plates on the free list she can have a monopoly of the canning business of the world." "There seems to be millions in it!"

adds the enthused editor. No doubt; but this is a suggestion of rank Free Trade; and the Americans have deliberately done themselves out of the millions in pros pect in accordance with the glorious and long-headed theory of Protection!

SPEAKING of the trade question reminds us to acknowledge suitably the receipt of a recherché little pamphlet from our esteemed fellow-citizen, the Secretary of the Manufacturers' Association. This able work is made up of two letters, from the Secretary and Assistant Secretary respectively, and the whole may be described as a stirring appeal to manufacturers to join the Association and contribute to the fund which is required to head off the pestilent Free Traders. It will interest the work ing men (including the farmers) to learn from this little book that "this Association, in protecting themselves from adverse legislation, are protecting labor by assuring a wide and lucrative field for Canadian artisans; are affording a larger and nearer market for all farm products, and are aiding in building up a national spirit," etc. In face of the cold, pitiless facts, so patent to every toiler in Canada at this moment, this passage may be described as a specimen of rare gall. Even Sir John is not equal to such specious humbug, for he frankly intimates that we must find markets abroad or prepare for a tight squeeze.

BUT it is the cover of this pamphlet that our glowing patriots, the protected manufacturers, are banking on! The cover is a blaze of glory, embellished with as many national emblems and soul-stirring mottoes as the mean card of a Horse Guards banquet could possibly display The whole affair is eminently typical of the Protection advocate—an utter absence of logical argument within and an overpowering amount of "old flag" on the out