

THE COMMERCIAL

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D. W. BUCHANAN,
Publisher.

The Commercial certainly enjoys a very much larger circulation among the business community of the vast region lying between Lake Superior and the Pacific Coast, than any other paper in Canada, daily or weekly. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, JULY 23, 1898.

NEW PREFERENTIAL TARIFF.

Last week The Commercial referred at some length to the Canadian preferential tariff, explaining the present position of the tariff. One point which would no doubt strike the reader of the article referred to, would be in regard to the difficulty which will inevitably be experienced in successfully enforcing the full provisions of the tariff. To secure the preference, the goods must be the "growth, produce or manufacture" of the favored countries. Manufactured articles, presumably made from foreign raw material, "must have labor expended on them in the country enjoying the preference, equal to one-quarter of their value."

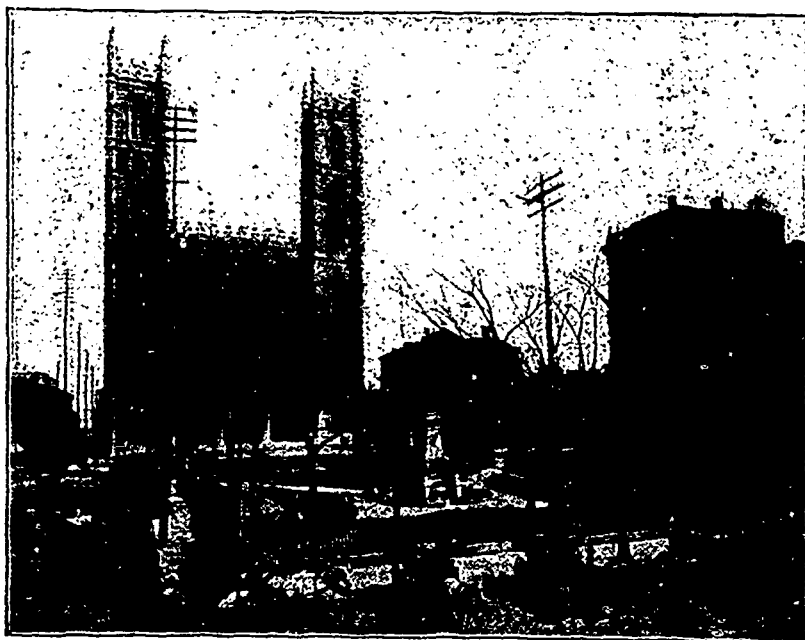
Just here it appears a very difficult matter crops up. It will be by no means an easy matter to decide what goods are and what are not entitled to the preference. Exporters will be required to make separate invoices for goods entitled to the preferential tariff, accompanied by a certificate declaring that the goods are of British or colonial origin, or if of foreign origin, that they have been further manufactured in the favored country to the extent of one-quarter of their value. If all exporters were thoroughly honest, there would not be much trouble with this provision; but

it may be taken for granted that there will be frequent attempts to evade the regulations of the tariff, and it would seem to be an easy matter to perpetrate frauds under this preferential tariff. Some manufactured goods might be made from either British or foreign material and it would be impossible to tell the difference between them. Again, it will often be a difficult matter to decide whether or not one-quarter of the value of the goods represents British labor. The customs department will have to get matters down very fine to decide this point in many cases. Still, again, enormous quantities of foreign goods, similar in style to British goods, are handled by British exporters. What is to prevent the export of these goods to Canada as British manufactures? especially as the exporter will not be subject to

number of French, Scandinavians, etc., a very mixed population to be sure. Sugar growing is the principal industry, and enormous fortunes have been made by a few speculators in this business. In fact the manoeuvres to get the islands annexed are said to have been engineered by the sugar kings, as it would give them a preferential market in the United States for their product. The exports of the island for the last recorded year were \$15,500,000 and the imports about half that amount. Honolulu, the capital of the islands, is distant from San Francisco 2,100 miles.

ENCLOSURES.

Complaint has several times reached The Commercial regarding the objections often made in some Winnipeg wholesale warehouses against enclos-



PLACE D'ARMES SQUARE, MONTREAL.
Showing Notre Dame Cathedral and New York Life Building.

penalty for sending false invoices. It certainly looks as though the customs department will have a difficult case in hand in strictly enforcing all the features of the preferential tariff.

HAWAII.

The Hawaiian Islands, recently annexed to the United States, cover some 7,000 square miles of territory, or about equal to the state of Massachusetts. All the islands are mountainous. The group extends east and west about 1,200 miles, but the principal islands extend only about 300 miles. The climate is fine. The population in 1896 was only 109,020, of whom 31,000 were natives, 21,500 Japanese, 15,200 Portuguese, 21,616 Chinese, 8,500 of mixed native blood, 3,000 United States citizens, 2,250 British, 1,400 German, and a small

ing parcels from other houses, in making up shipments to customers. Frequently merchants in the country, when ordering small parcels of goods from two or three houses, will ask to have the goods sent to one warehouse for enclosure in one package. Shippers in some of the warehouses, however, object to make these enclosures. Possibly the objection to making enclosures often comes from the shipping department alone, and not from principals. It is not the jobber alone who is accommodated by the acceptance by another jobber of parcels for enclosure. The customer of each jobber is the principal beneficiary, and it is usually at the request of the customer that the privilege of an enclosure is asked for. Those who object to accepting parcels for enclosure, should look at the