

Montreal *Herald* asks "Why single out pig iron and sugar as special pets for government favors? If the bounty system is to become part and parcel of the fiscal policy of Canada where is the line to be drawn?" Give us something more difficult to answer. This journal is not exceedingly favorable to the payment of a duty upon pig iron, holding that the duty should be high enough to give proper encouragement to the industry without the bounty. About \$7 per ton duty would be an elegant and most becoming figure, and under it we would manufacture our iron instead of importing it. Why we advocate the payment of a bounty on beet sugar is explained in another article. As to where the line is to be drawn if the bounty system is to become part of the fiscal policy of Canada, we would say that it should be drawn now at beet sugar, subject to change on short notice whenever Canada would be benefited by the change. But at present we want to see raw sugar on the free list, a duty of \$7 per ton on pig iron, and a bounty of two cents per pound on home made sugar.

MR. ABBOTT will no doubt do his best for the protected manufacturers, but he and they may as well make up their minds to face the inevitable. The long struggle against nature has exhausted the country. There is nothing for it but to succumb to her decrees—to fight with her instead of against her, to let commerce be free from the St. Lawrence to the Rio Grande.—*Toronto Globe*.

What, pray, constitutes the "long struggle against nature," and wherein is Canada "exhausted?" Canada is not exhausted, nor will she ever be as long as she maintains the policy she now observes, and which is leading her day by day to greater riches, greater importance, greater happiness of her people. But why talk about commerce being free "from the St. Lawrence to the Rio Grande?" Why look so longingly in that direction? Our American friends have told us time and again that the only way by which Canada can obtain free commerce from the St. Lawrence to the Rio Grande is by annexation. Is this what the *Globe* desires? Is fighting for Canadian autonomy fighting "against nature?" Considering the method our American friends have adopted to force Canada into annexation, it would be well for Canada to adopt the American tariff, not against the rest of the world, but against the United States.

WHOEVER is interested in the growth of American trade abroad may well heed what our Consul at Kingston has to say about the trade of Jamaica. That country imports annually \$8,000,000 worth of goods, but instead of buying them in the nearest market—the United States—they are bought chiefly in Canada and in Europe. "It is much easier to sell the goods that the people want," writes the Consul, "than to educate them to take what the importer may have on hand, and it is easier for him to change patterns than to alter a people's ideas of what they want. People here call for a high grade of goods as a general thing, and are willing to pay for them if they are made in the styles they like. Buggies and carriages manufactured for the Western trade cannot be sent to Jamaica. If carriage manufacturers of the United States want Jamaican trade, they must first find out what styles are wanted here, and what goods will sell best." Our former sales of carriages to Jamaica have fallen off lately, because (1) the American firms making the best grades do not make the styles wanted there, and (2) most of the carriages sent to Jamaica have gone through commission houses, and have been of a grade that no

manufacturer would care to place his name upon.—*New York Hardware*.

This is the sort of "reciprocity" that the annexationists want. The American manufacturers who make goods upon which no reputable maker would place his name, want Canada as a dumping ground for their trash. They want to foist upon Canada such stuff as Jamaican negroes refuse to buy.

SPEAKING of the collapse of the Connellsville coke strike, by which 14,000 men had been idle since early in February, and the effect the resumption of work in that industry would have upon iron making in the Pittsburgh district, the *Philadelphia Bulletin* says:

The extent of the revival of activity in the coke region will be dependent somewhat on the action which will now be taken by the furnacemen in the Shenango and Mahoning valleys, and this again will depend largely on the price at which coke will be sold and on the freight rates which will be charged for transporting it. Southern competition absolutely compels the furnacemen in the two valleys mentioned to make pig iron in the future cheaper than in the past or blow out their furnaces permanently.

And yet the American duty upon pig iron is \$6 per ton, which fact, together with the fact that southern competition is forcing cheaper production than ever before shows what protection is worth to American iron consumers. The Canadian duty upon pig iron is only \$4 per ton, and this low rate and the constant threat of the Opposition to remove it altogether if they ever obtain the power to do so, effectually prevents the development of the home industry, and a very large proportion of the pig iron consumed in Canada is imported. Last year the importations of pig iron aggregated 87,613 tons, of which 23,170 tons came from the United States, where the duty is \$6 per ton. If Canada is to have a blast furnace industry commensurate with the domestic demand for pig iron, the duty must be placed high enough to encourage it.

IMMEDIATELY after the burial of Sir John A. Macdonald it was known that Governor-General Stanley had asked Hon. J. J. C. Abbott to reform the Dominion Government. Upon the announcement of the death of Sir John, Parliament adjourned to re-assemble on June 16th. On the re-assembling on that day, Sir Hector Langevin, on the orders of the day being reached, arose and said: "Before the orders of the day are called I wish to read to the House a statement which has been presented to me by the Hon. Mr. Abbott, member of the Privy Council for Canada, which is as follows:

"Having obtained the requisite permission from His Excellency, I desire to make a statement of proceedings. After the death of the late the Right Hon. Sir John Macdonald it was felt by His Excellency that the state of public affairs did not necessitate the formation of a new Cabinet until the grave had closed over the late Premier and the last honors had been paid him. On the morning following the funeral His Excellency, exercising his constitutional right, applied to the Hon. Sir John Thompson for his advice with respect to the steps which should be taken for the formation of a new Government. Later, on the same day, by Sir John Thompson's advice, I was myself summoned by His Excellency, and, after consideration, I accepted on the following day the duty which His Excellency desired me to assume. I, therefore, communicated with my colleagues, and requested their consent to remain in their respective offices, and with their assent submitted to His Excellency my recommendation that they should be continued in