

THE FEELING AT THE WEST.

COMMERCIAL circles in Upper Canada, as well as in this section, continue much excited regarding the new banking scheme and the changes in the Tariff, which the Hon. Mr. Galt has introduced into Parliament. These changes were evidently unexpected by the business men of the country; and now that they are fully before the Legislature, the greatest diversity of opinion seems to exist regarding them. The writer has had an opportunity of ascertaining the state of public feeling in the West, and he would confine the few remarks which he proposes to make, to that section. This subject is the main topic of discussion among the community generally, and it is surprising how various and conflicting are the views put forth. On one point only is there an approach to unanimity. That is with regard to the time at which the Finance Minister has chosen to introduce these changes—particularly those of a fiscal nature. The opinion is very general that no alteration of the Tariff should have been proposed till after Confederation had been consummated. Changes in our revenue laws are very undesirable, and it is urged, with much force, that although the changes now introduced will make the second change so much the less, still it would have been better to avoid two changes where one would have answered the same purpose. For the first time almost in our history, Free Trade and Protection has become a living issue. All those engaged in manufacturing, and many of the inhabitants of the cities and towns, view with no favor a reduction of duties on articles which are now being made in our midst. They are up in arms against what they call a Free Trade policy, which (they assert) will ruin our manufacturing interests. On the other hand, the agricultural community, backed by a number of other classes, are not averse to a policy which will give them cheap goods. It certainly accords with their views, and were it not for division among them as to the time the change should have been proposed, would have met their entire approbation.

The Toronto, Hamilton and other Western Boards of Trade have gone against Mr. Galt's proposals, principally on the ground that Confederation should first have taken place, and not so much upon the merits of the questions at issue. Party feeling has something to do with the sides taken on the question, but generally it is judged free from political bias—sometimes Conservatives opposing the changes, and Reformers being found in their favour. As regards the borrowing of \$5,000,000 by the Government from our Banks, public opinion is just as much divided as about the tariff alterations. The question is more difficult to understand than the latter—in fact, there are really very few, either East or West, who have had the necessary experience to judge of the matter intelligently. Mr. Isaac Buchanan has come out against it, he and the *Globe* sailing for once in the same boat. The writers has met others who cordially endorse Mr. Galt's views, but the general opinion seems to be one of fear lest our banking institutions might suffer in some way from the alterations. Whatever is to be the result, it is to be hoped Parliament will soon dispose of these questions, for the excitement regarding them is steadily on the increase. This is not a healthy state of things for the business of the country, and the sooner all classes know what result is to be reached, the better it will be for the general prosperity.

MONEY MARKET.

THERE is a rather easier feeling noticeable in the money market, the demand having very considerably fallen off, both to pay duties and for other purposes. Business, in fact, is almost at a stand-still, and everybody is waiting for the action of Parliament on the Tariff.

Sterling Exchange in New York has advanced to 109 for 60 days' Bankers' Bills, and the price here, sympathizing with New York quotations, has come up to 109 to 109½ for Bank Drafts.

GOLD in New York has fluctuated somewhat since our last issue, having declined to 148. It has rallied again, however, under a demand for shipment and the advance in sterling Exchange, closing at 151½. The shipment on Wednesday amounted to over \$700,000.

SILVER is abundant; buying at 4½ and selling at 4½ per cent. discount.

THE DRY GOODS TRADE.

Ballie, James, & Co.
Baukhage, Beak & Co.
Benjamin, Wm., & Co.
Black, Lewis S. & Co.
Claxton, T. James, & Co.
Dougall, John, & Co.
Foulds & Hodgson.
Gilmour, J. Y., & Co.
Greenhalgh, S. Son & Co.
Hington, James, & Co.
Lewis, Kay & Co.
Macfarlane, Andrew, & Co.
May, Joseph.

Winks, George & Co.

May, Thomas, & Co.
McIntyre, Denoon & Co.
Meyer, J., & Co.
Moss, S. H., & J.
Muir, W., & R.
Munderloh & Steencken.
Ogilvy & Co.
Prevost, Amable, & Co.
Ringland, Ewart & Co.
Robertson, A., & Co.
Roy, Jas., & Co.
Stephen, William, & Co.
Stirling, McCall & Co.

BUSINESS in this department of trade continues quiet, and we do not look for any marked improvement for some time to come, certainly not till after the tariff on manufactured goods is settled definitively, one way or the other. We have every reason to believe that the prospects for a large fall trade are unusually encouraging, and that the unfavourable reports concerning the crops, so extensively circulated in the spring, have been altogether exaggerated. Even where the wheat was entirely winter killed, spring wheat, barley, &c., were sown to a large extent, and promise large yields. There will, we believe, be no difficulty in disposing of these crops, and the farmers will be in a position to largely patronize the country store-keepers. We do not think we are over-sanguine in expecting an unusually prosperous trade in the coming season.

THE LEATHER TRADE.

Brown & Childs.
Dougall J. & Co.
Hua & Richardson.
Kirkwood, Livingston & Co.
Seymour, C. E.
Seymour, M. H.
Shaw F. & Bros.

THE Business of the past week has been only to a moderate extent, the demand being almost entirely for present consumption.

SPANISH SOLE has had some enquiry; but we do not hear of sales of any considerable lots, to effect which, some concession in price would be required.

SLAUGHTER SOLE—The demand for all kinds has been light, but prices are unchanged.

HARNESS is scarce and in demand. All lots coming forward can be placed readily at full quotations.

WAXED UPPER is quiet and without change, the stock still continuing light.

GRAINED UPPER—Good stock, of which there is no surplus in market, sells readily; but inferior is in better supply, and has less call.

BUFF and PEBBLED—Good makes sell readily at former quotations, but there is little demand for inferior.

PATENT ANT ENAMELLED are in good demand, but the supply continues very small.

SPLIT—Sales have been made readily at unchanged prices.

SHEEP SKINS meet with good enquiry, but the supply is comparatively small.

HIDES—Prices continue firm, and sales have been effected to a fair extent at about our quotations.

THE HARDWARE TRADE.

Brush, George.
Buchanan, I., & Co.
Charlebois, A., & Co.
Cuthbert & Caverhill.
Currie, W. & F. P., & Co.
Evans, J. H.
Evans & Evans.
Fraser, P.
Gilbert, E. E.

Hall, Kay & Co.
Inland, W. H.
Kershaw & Edwards.
Morland, Watson & Co.
Mulholland, & Baker.
Robertson, Jas.
Round, John & Sons.
Simms, F. H.
Winn & Holland

THIS, as well as other branches of trade, has been seriously affected by the proposed changes in the tariff, and still more by the uncertainty as to whether they will go into effect, and as to whether duties paid now under the old tariff will be refunded if the new one receives the sanction of Parliament. Some houses, depending on Mr. Galt's influence to secure the passage of his bill, with a remission of all duties paid after the 27th ult., others believing he will not be able to carry his measure, continue to enter their goods and pay duties, according to the requirements of their business, while others are afraid to act, and leave their goods, beyond what they actually must have, in bond, preferring to wait for the final decision.

Prices are, in the main, entirely unchanged. Pig Iron is less abundant, and we advance our quotations for Gatscherrie \$1 per ton. Bar Iron is quiet and unchanged, and the same remark applies to other descriptions of manufactured iron.

THE GROCERY TRADE.

Chapman H., & Co.
Childs, George, & Co.
Converse, Colson & Lamb.
Davis, Clark, & Clayton.
Fitzpatrick & Moore.
Fournier, Jules.
Gillespie, Moffatt & Co.
Gear, Henry J.
Hutchins, E., & Co.
Jeffery, Brothers & Co.
Kings & Kinloch.
Leeming & Buchanan.
Maitland, E., Tyrie & Co.
Mathewson, J. A. & H.
Mitchell, Kinnear & Co.
Nevin, William, & Co.

Noad, James S., & Co.
Reuter, Lonsdale & Co.
Rimmer, Gunn & Co.
Robertson & Beattie.
Robertson, David.
Routh, Haviland & Co.
Saunderson & Co.
Schneider, Bond & Co.
Sinclair, Jack & Co.
Tiffin, Jos., & Sons.
Thompson, Murray & Co.
Torrance, David, & Co.
Urquhart, Alex., & Co.
West, Bros.
Winn & Holland.
Withers, Joy & Co.

THE past week has been one of very great inactivity in all kinds of Groceries, trade in some of the leading articles having been almost entirely checked by the doubts that exist concerning the duties to be levied on them. Liquors and Teas are nominally higher, but prices are unsettled, and no large amounts could be placed at the advance. We hear of 250 hds. chests uncolored Japan Teas at about 58c. There have been some sales of Cuba Sugars, in lots of 10 hds, at \$8½ to 8½ per 100 lbs.

Trade of Saint John, N. B.

Comparative shipments from 1st Jan. to July 3rd:—

	No. of Ships.	Tonnage.	Tons Birch.	Tons Fine.	M.S.P.F.I.
1864.....	120	91,751	5,771	5,478	70,867
1865.....	116	92,667	4,238	5,817	69,204
1866.....	116	83,908	4,018	959	66,540

There were on 3rd July 38 ships, 35,051 tons in port, against 27 ships, 26,990 tons, same date in 1865.

PROTECTIONIST MEETING.

A MASS meeting was held in front of the Court House on Wednesday evening last, at which some of the influential citizens of Montreal were present. We have not room for more than the resolutions passed, which were as follows:—

1st. That this meeting views with alarm the changes in the tariff as proposed by the Hon. the Finance Minister, as striking a severe blow to the commercial and industrial interests of the country, checking its present prosperity and growth, and sapping the foundations of a structure which is fast raising the Province to a high rank amongst the nations of the world.

2nd. The constant changes in the tariff are at all times dangerous to the commercial, manufacturing and other interests of the country, and should be made gradually, and after mature deliberation. That the proposed changes are unequal for the country never being in a more prosperous condition than at present. And in view of the early Confederation of the Province any changes that might then be thought necessary should be made with the full concurrence of the Confederate Parliament, allowing our Sister Provinces an opportunity of expressing their views on the question.

3. That Free Trade, as viewed by us, is opening the market of foreign and neighbouring countries to a free interchange of our productions and manufactures, thereby placing us on an equal footing with them. That instead of abolishing the duties upon the industrial products of the country, and driving our population to seek a home in the neighbouring republic, while we are debarred from entering their markets, except under an almost prohibitory tariff, it should be the aim of our Legislators to develop and employ the resources of our country, and retain the vast emigration which naturally seeks our shores.

4. That our representatives in Parliament be called upon to oppose the whole scheme, and exert their influence to have the Government abandon it. That a large and influential deputation of gentlemen be sent to Ottawa to confer with the Government, and urge upon them the withdrawal of the scheme, and to take such other measures as they may think necessary under the circumstances. And that a copy of these resolutions be sent to each of our representatives. The following gentlemen to compose the deputation:—His Worship the Mayor, Henry Starnes, Esq.; J. L. Mathewson, G. W. Weaver, Champion Brown, Wm. Workman, Ferdinand David, John Kedpath, Haviland Routh, A. W. Ogilvie, Dr. Bernard, J. N. Valois, R. Learmont, James Rose, John McDougall, E. E. Gilbert, Henry Bulmer, Thomas D. Hood, W. F. Bartley, Mr. Leclair, Mr. Mosely, S. Rodier, J. N. Herald, A. W. Hood, P. Christie, Alfred Savage, Mr. Borgoin, Henry Lyman, Mr. Drummond, Alfred Perry, John Henry Molson, Mr. Declair, A. Benning, M. H. Cochrane, Thomas Feck, A. A. Stevenson, John Smith, Charles S. Watson, William Johnson, G. L. Rolland, Owen McGarvey, Mr. Green, J. W. McGavren, W. A. Ives, Mr. Ames, Francis Scholes, E. Auger, P. De-lorme, A. Fleck, J. Richardson, P. Donovan, Mr. Jones, J. W. Mullarky.