

S. Hobbs to represent that city in the local legislature said about every mean thing that could be thought of regarding one of the most worthy and enterprising business men of Canada, and withal a manufacturer of whom any city or any country might well be proud. In its sane moments the Free Press is an able exponent of the principles of protection, precisely such as are exemplified by Mr. Hobbs, its political teachings usually being of a character well calculated to encourage and build up the manufacturing industries of the country. We willingly concede the right of the Free Press to advocate the election of Mr. Meredith, but we fail to see wherein, in thus doing, it was necessary to adversely criticise the business methods and reputation of a manufacturer who became such, and a most successful one, under the alegis of the National Policy. From our point of view Mr. Hobbs is of a class who do quite as much for the welfare and prosperity of Canada as that to which Mr. Meredith belongs. He may not be an astute lawyer as Mr. Meredith undoubtedly is, but as a keen, bright, intelligent business man, he is the equal of any gentleman who solicited the suffrages of the people. It was proper and right that every voter in the riding should judge between the two men and cast his ballot accordingly; but it was not right that the Free Press should depreciate the worth and merits of Mr. Hobbs, or that the Advertiser should lie about Mr. Meredith, as they both did without stint.

The Empire during the whole campaign, and indeed for weeks before the opening of it, sought to make capital against Mr. Mowat and his party because the Ontario Government declined to forbid the export of saw logs from this province to the United States. Speaking of this as being The Policy of Wrong it says:—

These limits have passed into the hands of Americans, who carry off the logs to foreign mills, and all the people have for their timber land, justly considered an inestimable possession, is the bare price of the limit, usually sold far below its value. The Opposition, in order that the people may have such advantage as comes from the milling of the logs, have contended for stipulations in the conditions of sale, that the logs must be sawn in the province, but the Government, playing into the hands of the Americans, have steadfastly refused to take any such advice. The Globe abets them in this, and, lifting up its voice in behalf of John Charlton and the other renegades in the Liberal party, who waits but a chance to sacrifice us to the Yankees, protests against even the Dominion Government coming to the relief of the ill-used people of this province by re-enacting the export duty upon logs. There is little use in entering into a discussion with The Globe as to the economic value of the present arrangement. Hair-splitting and grandiose platitudes upon the perils of interfering with established trade may satisfy the organ and its annexationist friends, but will not satisfy the people, who know that, while Michigan mills and Michigan labor are faring profitably upon logs exported from this side, Canadian mills along the Georgian bay are silent and Canadian labor driven to seek sustenance elsewhere.

Our protest against the spirit of this quotation, and of the stand The Empire has assumed in this matter all the way through is on the ground that it wilfully intends to deceive and mislead its readers as to the true and only source for remedying the evil complained of. Without doubt it is an evil, and a great one, this denuding Canadian forests for the sake of building up the American lumber in-

dustry; but The Empire knows that the true and only remedy is in the hands of the Dominion Government, not that of Ontario. By whose will was it that these Ontario timber limits passed into the hands of the Americans? Surely it was because the people of Ontario, or their Government were willing to thus sell them. There is no robbery or violence involved. The Americans paid the price demanded for them, and they are exercising their right in carrying off their logs to their mills in their own country. But Ontario has no right to interfere with these Americans in disposing of their property as they see fit. The right may exist to stipulate that in the future all the timber cut from public lands shall be manufactured in Ontario; but such a restriction could not be made to apply to limits already sold, or to private lands. Ontario has no right or authority to interfere in interprovincial trade, neither has it the authority to interfere in international trade. The Empire knows this full well, and it also knows that this right rests exclusively with the Dominion Government. For its own political reasons it ignores these facts. It heaps abuse upon Mr. Mowat, its political enemy, because he will not do that which he has no authority to do; and as to demanding that the Dominion Government, its political friends, should intervene and impose an export duty upon saw logs, which would be the only way of remedying the evil, it is as dumb as a clam.

By slightly changing the language of The Empire which we have quoted, it might with much truth be said that the Dominion Government, playing into the hands of the Americans, withdrew the export duty upon logs, which they had imposed, and ever since have steadfastly refused to re-impose it, although a strong and general demand has been made time and again that the Canadian sawmill industry may have such advantages as comes from the milling of the logs. It protests against hair-splitting and grandiose platitudes in discussing the question, but it knows that while Michigan mills and Michigan labor are faring profitably upon logs exported from this side, simply because the Dominion Government decline to impose the export duty, Canadian mills along the Georgian Bay are silent, and Canadian labor driven to seek sustenance elsewhere.

A SACRED RIGHT VERSUS ANARCHY.

Recently in discussing Coxeyism in the United States, our esteemed neighbor, The Week, delivered itself as follows:—

On what principle can a Government give repeated audience to the few and deny it to the many? Is it that the larger number is suggestive of intimidation? Is not the other equally capable of using intimidation of another kind? One has but to recall certain statements which were boldly made in the Canadian Manufacturer, a year or two ago, in order to find a suggestive answer to the question. Of course the farmers and other law-abiding citizens of Canada are not likely to have either the inclination or the time to go in large bodies to Ottawa, to lay their views before the Government while Parliament is in session. But, assuming that there is a conflict or divergence of views and interests between them and the proprietors of the various industries whose representatives are so much in evidence at the Capital, and keeping in mind the great advantage which the latter consequently have for impressing their opinions upon the law-makers, it seems a fair question whether the inequality should not be corrected by a strict