

THE TRUE WITNESS

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Every paid up subscriber to THE DAILY POST or TRUE WITNES will receive, one of our splendid Litho. Pictures, grouping Gladstone, Parnell, O'Brien and Davitt

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 1888.

MR. GAUTHIER'S majority in L'Assomption is 112, not 96 as at first reported. In Missisquoi Mr. Meigs correct majority is 217.

In southern fruit be more cheap and plentiful this year than for nine years past, not thanks to the taxations of Ottawa. Our thanks are due to the Liberal Opposition and to the powers at Washington. In a northern country, such as Canada, the tax upon fruit was simply a prohibition of healthy food for the poor. It did not effect the wealthy, who could afford to pay extra without pinching.

AN encouraging sign of the times is to be seen in the attitude assumed by several Protestant religious papers towards ruling rule and its relation to the great question of Unrestricted Reciprocity. Recently the Baptist Messenger and Visitor of St. John, N. B., published a warning editorial in which the evils of the so-called protective high tariff policy was dwelt upon, and the iniquity of the combines that had been brought into play thereby. The article concluded:—

"What the end of this will be it is hard to say. Capitalists are on the move to combine and secure the control of all the great commodities, etc., which people must have. In the United States because of the need of a smaller rather than a larger revenue, the protection behind which monopolies gather may have to give way. It should not, and all the chief necessities of life are put up to make the riches of the rich greater at the expense of the poorer, it will not be a wonder if there be a socialistic outbreak some day."

LONG accustomed to hearing from certain quarters in the West sneers at the people of this province for being non-progressive, we are gratified to see the Liberal press of Ontario pointing to the elections in Missisquoi and L'Assomption, as convincing proof that Quebecers are to be fore as upholders of the principles of progress and freedom. As the Hamilton Times says:—"Their example might well be followed by every constituency in Ontario. No one but a monopolist, profiting by the labors of his fellow-men, for which he is unwilling to pay, can reasonably object to an all-round reciprocity treaty. Unfortunately the men in power in Parliament to-day are as potter's clay in the hands of the combines."

All Ottawa correspondents agree in saying that Hon. Mr. Laurier's speech on the Unrestricted Reciprocity resolution was one of the best ever heard in the Canadian Commons. Since his assumption of the leadership of the Opposition, Mr. Laurier has demonstrated high capabilities of statesmanship. His invariable courtesy, self-command, wide knowledge of affairs, thorough identification with popular ideas, his marvellous gift of oratory, have combined to win for him the respect and admiration of opponents as well as supporters. We can well believe, as our correspondent at Ottawa writes, that "he was listened to with deep attention, and that he is regarded by the Opposition as a wise, learned, eloquent and reliable leader in the absence of Mr. Blake."

It suits the organ of party exigencies to-day to describe Goldwin Smith as a Liberal in union with the Canadian Opposition. It forgets that the Professor was one of the most active and pronounced advocates of the protective tariff, that he took the stump against the Mackenzie Government, and that since, shortly after his arrival in Canada, when he had a quarrel with the late Hon. George Brown, he has been a consistent, able and bitter opponent of the party led by Mr. Blake and Mr. Laurier. Only on the question of Unrestricted Reciprocity does Mr. Smith hold views somewhat analogous to the principles laid down in Sir Richard Cartwright's resolution. Speaking at Washington he represents nobody but himself, but he has a perfect right as an adopted Canadian to say publicly at Washington or anywhere else what he believes to be in the interests of the country.

Like Lord Olive, the C. P. R. Company seem to be astonished at their own moderation in accepting a Government guarantee for the interest on fifteen million dollars when they might demand cash on the nail. In the history of railways there is nothing to equal the advantages granted this company. Undoubtedly it has done a great work, but what company could not if it had at its back the Government, treasury and resources of the Dominion? Its management are entitled to all praise for the enterprise they have shown, but a fear is growing in the public mind that the question, once agitated, whether the country should own and operate the railway, or hand it over to a company, is likely to be solved by the company owning and operating the country. The efforts now being made by the C. P. R. to prevent the Grand Trunk obtaining a charter to construct a line from this city to Dundee via Beauharnois and Valleyfield, should not be countenanced by Parliament. It is a business necessity for the Grand Trunk as well as a public requirement that the Dundee branch should be opened.

The opposition interposed by the C. P. R., is simply designed to kill competition and should be put down in the most effectual manner in the interests of commerce and the general public who have had enough of monopoly not to desire its extension to this part of the country.

UNDER date of March 26th the London correspondent of the Boston Post writes:— Mr. Joseph Chamberlain has returned, looking physically better for the Atlantic business, but much worse from the political point of view, judging from his foolish and dishonest speech yesterday on Mr. Parnell's bill. He has had also two bitter pills to swallow already since his arrival. On St. Patrick's Day William O'Brien had a magnificent reception in Birmingham, where he made a speech in the evening very damaging to Mr. Chamberlain's reputation as a Liberal. His flirtations with the Irish National party three years ago. On Monday the second pill was administered at the elections of the "Liberal 2,000" of Birmingham. For these the Unionist faction had made tremendous preparations; and the result was that in every ward but three they were utterly routed, and the Liberal party in Birmingham is now definitely Gladstonian. Even in Mr. Chamberlain's own division, three of the districts went against him; while his henchmen, Messrs. Williams, Collins and Kenrick, have received definite notices to quit.

AN American contemporary remarks upon the large number of great men of the present time who have reached old age. Emperor William had passed his 90th birthday when he died. In the list of the living it finds that George Bancroft, the historian, is 87; Neal Dow is 84; Simon Cameron, who was in Lincoln's cabinet, is 88; David Dudley Field is 82; Gen. Joseph E. Johnston and John G. Whittier are 80; Jeff Davis is 79; Oliver Wendell Holmes and Hannibal Hamlin are, with Gladstone and Tennyson, 78; President McCook, of Princeton, and President Noah Porter, of Yale, are 77; President Barnard, of Columbia College, is 78. Abroad there are Louis Kosuth, still living at the age of 85; Cardinal Newman, 86; Von Moltke, 87; Ferdinand de Lesseps, 82; Cardinal Manning, 79; the Pope, 77; John Bright, Marshal Bazaine and Kinglake, the historian of the Crimea, 76; Robert Browning and Meissonier, 75; Bismarck, 72. In Canada we have Sir John Macdonald, 73.

In last week's issue of THE WITNESS we reproduced an account of the reinstatement of a tenant wrongfully evicted by Lord Lansdowne at Luggacurran. It is taken from the Leader of the 24th March. The same paper, commenting on the event, and the "silence and gloom" of His Ex's reception by the public of Ottawa at the opening of Parliament, observes:—

While Lansdowne moved about among the Canadians in the midst of silence and seeming gloom, the tenants whom he has evicted at the present time, and the warm sympathy and the support of their fellow-men. They are all comfortably housed and are calmly awaiting the consummation of their struggle. The entire country side turned out on Saturday to show its sympathy with them, and the blacksmith's house was the scene of a demonstration of enthusiasm and good will. The honest occupant of that house a few short months ago could never have anticipated would give distinction to his humble homestead. Cheers loud and deep rang to the skies as the fitting answer to Balfour's libels on the honest tenant. It was a scene of enthusiasm that will live for many a day in the memory of men. And it is but the prelude to a larger scene, and that greater enthusiasm which will soon celebrate one of the most brilliant triumphs in the latter-day history of Ireland.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S match-making meddlings have raised a storm in Germany which has given a new and somewhat piquant turn to European news. It is rather significant of the revival of dynastic power in national affairs that royal family intrigues should be potent enough to distract a policy profound and far-reaching as that with which Bismarck has built up the German Empire. Queen Victoria's ambition is to make her family supreme in Europe, how far they may tally with sound British policy is a question, but from the tone of Berlin despatches it would appear that the mass of the German people are averse to the schemes of the English royal family. Bismarck, who has successfully kept the Latin nations at loggerheads, will, we may be sure, find no great difficulty in working up German feeling to a point dangerous to British interests, and force the two Imperial Victorias and their Battenberg proteges to subside.

L'ASSOMPTION is a purely French-Canadian County and down to last general election invariably sent a Tory representative to parliament. On that occasion Mr. Joseph Gauthier came forward as the Liberal-Nationalist candidate and was elected by 21 majority. Having been unseated he again contested the county with his former opponent, Mr. Rocher. The polling took place yesterday and Mr. Gauthier was elected by a majority of 94. This is the most significant victory obtained by the Liberals for many years. As in Missisquoi, the great issue before the electors was Unrestricted Reciprocity, advocated by Mr. Gauthier, against restriction and combine Tory rule, represented by Mr. Rocher. Thus it will be seen that the farmers of Quebec are equally alive with those of Ontario to the wisdom and necessity of free commercial intercourse with the United States. They see that if it is a good thing to have the large market of Montreal open to them, it would be infinitely better to have the larger markets of the great cities of New York, Boston, Albany, etc., also thrown open. It was said of old that the stars were on the side of Cyrus. In these times it may be truly observed that facts, reason and necessity are on the side of the Liberals, and with these the people cast their ballots, and the whole continent thrown open to free trade, not, as now in Canada, with the farming class enslaved to a combination of political boudlers and commercial combines.

"A TACTICAL MOVE." The Kazoot made itself absurd on Monday, ridiculous on Wednesday, and contemptible on Thursday. Like a dog of doubtful ancestry, it barked and snarled violently at first, but having experienced the chastening effects of a sound whipping, it fawned and whined; now, imagining itself out of reach of the lash, it oozes its ears and wags its tail with a "catch-me-if-you-can" sort of expression extremely amusing. Keifer-

ring to the ignominious backdown the Government was forced to take on the "standing offer" clause of the Customs Act, when the Washington authorities drew attention to Canadian breach of faith, the Kazoot tries to break the fall by saying:—"It must be understood as a tactical move and not one rendered obligatory by the standing offer of our Tariff Act." This is about the most contemptible excuse ever invented. A tactical move! Tactical humbug. The matter was first brought to notice by Hon. Peter Mitchell on Wednesday of last week. Sir John lost his temper when questioned regarding it, and declared in effect that he would not put the standing offer clause in force because it was permissive, not obligatory. In this stand he was backed up by Minister of Justice Thompson. Last Monday the Kazoot yelled defiance at the Yankees and soundly abused the Liberal Opposition. Then came the demand from Washington for the fulfilment of the statutory obligation. At once Sir John Macdonald submitted, and in the humblest tones agreed to put all the articles admitted free of duty into the United States on the Dominion free list! And now the Kazoot, with that invertebrate suppleness for which it is notorious when obeying its master, gets up on its hind legs and solemnly assures us that the back down was only "a tactical move," made necessary in order "to disarm the free-traders and Anglo-phobists at Washington."

Such is the wretched, the contemptible position to which Macdonaldite statesmanship and journalism has been reduced.

"OH, WHERE AND OH, WHERE HAS MY HIGHLAND LADDIE GONE?"

It is a good thing to possess great wealth, providing one does not make it his god and fall down and worship it. But how a country sometimes suffers because of the centralization of wealth. Just picture the following:—

"Mr. Ross Winans, the noted American sportsman, intends to give up his deer forests in Ross-shire and Inverness shires, which extend over 260,000 acres. Half of Winans' game reserve is on the Chisholm estate, and Mrs. Chisholm, of Chisholm, is negotiating with her tenant in order to obtain a surrender of his lease. The lease of the great forest of Glenstrathfarrar, which is on the Lovat estate and lets at \$5,750 a year, expired last November and was not renewed to Winans, the new tenant being W. K. Vanderbilt, of New York, who has taken Beaufort Castle for five years. Mr. Winans did not visit Scotland last year."

Over 260,000 acres in a small county controlled by one man for sporting purposes. Increase of population is to be stopped, cultivation of land is prohibited, farmers are deprived of homes to make a happy hunting ground for an interloper. Capitalists cannot invest, contractors cannot build. No! The sound of the hunter's horn is heard, the hunter on horseback, followed by his friends and preceded by his hounds, dashes along; the game is chased, captured and carried home and the evening is spent in hilarious feasting. What a happy world we would have were all the millionaires to amalgamate, buy up the earth and then fence it in. Ordinary mortals would be, as Herbert Spencer has pictured, without a claim to standing room on the earth and liable to be put off it any moment by the owners of the soil. But we fancy a time is coming when the majority of mankind will refuse to acknowledge any set of men as owners of the earth. But how will it fare with a nation whose hills and valleys have been swept of their inhabitants in order that a Yankee millionaire may hunt deer over them at his pleasure? Where will the men come from who once filled the ranks of the Scottish regiments, when Great Britain has to face, as it must some time, a foreign foe? Who will form the squares at future Waterloo, or stand up in "the Thin Red Line," at another Balaclava? Where will Winans be then? Where will Scotland be? England where? Let the echo of the huntsman's horn in the Highland glens answer where!

WOMAN'S RIGHTS.

Last Sunday the Women's Conference at Washington was brought to a close. No one who watched the proceedings can deny the great intellectual ability and earnest morality which characterized all that was said and done at the meetings. Womanlike, however, they attempted too much in the range of subjects discussed, but that, perhaps, was only a proof of the extent of the reforms they contemplated and the wealth of their mental resources in grappling with existing evils.

An idea of the wide range of subjects they thought fit to discuss may be obtained from the following list of papers read before the conference:—Unitarian women; women in the early Christian church; science and religious truth; dissertations concerning "God omnipotent in love"; "The power of the soul in its relation to the body"; marriage and divorce; the legal rights of women; women's influence; temperance reform; woman suffrage in various forms; women as farmers, teachers, journalists. In fact Woman was talked about by women in all possible relations save the one where woman is supreme—in the home, as wife and mother. Nota word was uttered by these learned pundits in petticoats concerning woman's great mission, the bearing and rearing of children, nor did they condescend to so homely and practical a subject as how to prepare a meal in a way that would not give their husbands fit of indigestion, spoil his temper and send him to the club or the "lodge" for the independent quiet and comfort he should find at his own fireside. They chose rather to discuss "God Omnipotent in Love," forgetting that God is most omnipotent in that love which makes a happy home, where children are reared to do his bidding and from which they go forth wise, gentle, useful members of society.

Let it not be supposed by what we say that we object to the enlargement of woman's sphere of usefulness. We recognize in the growth of American institutions the complete emancipation of woman and her elevation, as far as her nature will admit, to a position of equal citizenship with man. We do not see

her presence at the ballot box, for we believe she will be found on the side of reform, though there may be a lurking doubt as to the character of the influences that may be brought to bear on her.

A noted preacher disenting on this subject took for his text Mark xiv., 8. Christ is sitting at meat in a home in Bethany. As usual the men are occupying the "front seats." A woman makes her way through them to do what she feels she has a right to do—to pour the ointment of her esteem and gratitude on the head of one who had shown affection for her. True to their instinct, the men "had indignation within themselves," and proceeded to define, but the Master with his rebuking eyes turned on them, cut them short with "Let her alone." That's it, let her alone. It is all a woman asks. She is fully capable of deciding how much of a spherer her Creator fixed for her. It is she, not we, who is the arbiter of her destiny. If she chooses to get down on her knees to polish plate glass, prefers it, is happy in it, let her alone. If she develops a capacity to manage a ranch, let her alone. If she possesses the gifts of government, comprehends the principles underlying civil law, knows the meaning of the ballot and is possessed of a conviction that she ought to have it, let her alone.

When we reflect on the many noble charities kept alive and made potent instruments of good by women, who also fulfil the duties of life with cheerfulness, we feel as men that we should not retard them in their efforts. As things are at present the most we can do is to afford capable women as fair opportunities for earning an independent, respectable livelihood as we give men. At the same time we must bear in mind that there is one right inherent in man of which women can never deprive him—that is the right to defend and protect them, to see that they suffer no injustice and to love them, only asking in return that they make themselves worthy of our love.

A FILTHY DEFAMER.

Some time ago we made readers of THE POST acquainted with the character and conduct of an individual styling himself Rev. J. D. Fulton, D.D., of Brooklyn, N.Y. This person wrote a book full of the most vile and indecent attacks on the Catholic Church. It was refused publication by several respectable houses, but the author obtained through it the notoriety for which he craved. He then started on a lecturing tour, and in various cities repeated the obscene slanders on the platform which had gained for his vile book so hateful a reputation. Recently he appeared in Toronto and created much indignation there by his noisome attacks on the nuns. Although deeply insulted, the Catholics of the city took no notice of the wretched slanderer. The nuns, however, did not lack a champion. A Protestant, Mr. W. T. R. Preston, general secretary of the Reform party, wrote a letter to the Mail, of which the following is a copy:—

Sir, Rev. J. D. Fulton, D.D., of Brooklyn, N.Y., comes here ostensibly as one whose mission is to preach the "glad tidings" of the Christian religion—but really to find in Toronto audiences a receptacle for the vilest character of filth this people have ever been called on to witness. His main object here, as throughout the greater part of his life, is to attack the institutions of the Roman Catholic Church, sparing not even the defenceless Sisters connected with the various convents of the country. The first principles of manly gallantry should have prompted this man to hesitate long before his depraved and lustful imagination had reached the point of self-sacrificing women with his accursed insinuations.

I may say, although I have no doubt the fact is well known, that I am a Protestant, and will yield to no man in my allegiance and veneration for the simple truths of the plan of salvation as understood in the Methodist denomination. But if my religion could find any strength or substance in such a filthy caricature as Dr. Fulton presents to his hearers, I would utterly despair of any sanctifying results following in the wake of the Gospel of Christ. A defence from my hands of any of the institutions of the Roman Catholic Church is unnecessary. The great mass of the Protestant public in this country have learned to respect them. Of the Sisters of Charity (whom Dr. Fulton refers to as the "sacred virgins") as the Christian people of Canada know, that where poverty, misery, sickness and death most do congregate, there are to be found these noble women, ministering in kindness and love, without fee or reward, and putting to shame the philanthropic efforts of many Protestant communities. It is impossible to view in the hearts of such could exist the wickedness and sin charged by this itinerant vendor of infamous falsehoods. Protestants and Catholics in this country have long since learned to respect each other, and the Protestants owe it to themselves to mark with contempt the utterances of such a scoundrel as Dr. Fulton, who is a Christian minister of Brooklyn, T. R. Preston.

W. T. R. PRESTON. Toronto, April 2. This manly, chivalrous defence of the noble sisters, whose devotion to the cause of religion and humanity, has long passed into a proverb, is a worthy expression of the true sentiments of all educated, sensible, generous Protestants. Coming from a member of the Methodist church, it is a stinging rebuke to the rascally defamer of women, who deserves to be shamed by all men for his offences against public morality and common decency.

SATURDAY'S VOTE.

In a parliament elected by such means as were used last general election to ensure a majority for the Tories, it was not to be expected that a vote in accordance with popular feeling on the question of Unrestricted Reciprocity would be obtained. That majority represents nothing but the Gerrymander, Bribery, the Revolving Barrister and the par-

political plot carried into effect by corruption.

The division on Saturday morning, however, marks a clearly defined line of cleavage between the Tory and Liberal parties. The record is established and the country can now see and consider the attitude of the Government and the Opposition in relation to the trade question.

The Conservative party is irrevocably committed to the policy of keeping the country in bondage to combines and monopolies. The Liberal party has declared without reserve in favor of Unrestricted Reciprocity with the United States.

On this issue the two parties must hereafter go before the people. Hereafter the Conservatives cannot pretend that they are in favor of reciprocity or extended trade relations with the neighboring republic, the vote Saturday morning has fixed that point.

That there may be no mistake as to the meaning of the vote let us quote Sir Richard Cartwright's resolution, which was defeated, and Mr. Foster's amendment, which was carried. The resolution reads:—

"That it is highly desirable that the largest possible freedom of Commercial intercourse should obtain between the Dominion of Canada and the United States, and that it is expedient that all articles manufactured in, or the natural products of either of the said countries should be admitted free of duty into the ports of the other (articles subjected to duties of excise or of internal revenue alone excepted). That it is further expedient that the Government of the Dominion should take steps at an early date to ascertain on what terms and conditions arrangements can be effected with the United States for the purpose of securing full and unrestricted reciprocity of trade therewith."

Mr. Foster's amendment reads:—

"That all the words after 'that' be struck out in order to add the following:—'Canada in the future, as in the past, is desirous of cultivating and extending trade relations with the United States in so far as they may not conflict with the policy of fostering the various interests and industries of the Dominion which was adopted in 1879 and has since received in so marked a manner the sanction and approval of its people.'"

It will be seen that the resolution is a precise statement of a policy of friendly free trade with the United States, whereby the markets of the great Republic would be opened to our people on terms of equality, Canada conceding the same privilege to the people of the States. In the amendment a lack of clear statement is significantly apparent. The introductory words are, however, in direct conflict with the concluding expression. What parity of reasoning is there in declaring that "Canada is desirous of cultivating and extending trade relations with the United States," only so far as such cultivation and extension "may not conflict" with the protective tariff adopted in 1879. The two things are absolutely incompatible. How can Canada maintain a high tariff of exclusion and isolation, and at the same time cultivate and extend trade relations with the country against which that tariff is erected? Such a declaration is a manifest fraud, the intention of which is to throw dust in the eyes of the people and furnish some sort of a loop-hole hereafter to the Government when the popular demand for reciprocity will refuse to submit to denial.

But we have no fear as to the ultimate result of the conflict. The people of Canada will not submit much longer to a system of commercial slavery. Consumers in the cities, as well as farmers and workmen, are calculating how much they are paying more than they ought to pay for the necessities of life. The result of their calculations is that a large portion of their legitimate profits is taken directly out of their pockets and put into the pockets of the combine. And as, in numerous instances, the amount thus siphoned runs up into the thousands annually, the sense of injustice deepens and must find expression on all available opportunities. Thus the general public is being educated to a knowledge of the extent they are being robbed, and as a consequence the tide has set in strongly in favor of the policy of commercial freedom advocated by the Liberals.

An appeal to the country for a ratification of the vote of Saturday morning would, beyond doubt, result in an overwhelming majority in favor of Sir Richard Cartwright's resolution.

ULSTER PROTESTANTS AND THE PLAN OF CAMPAIGN.

Those who imagine that the Irish difficulty with landlords is confined to the Catholic parts of Ireland should take a note of what is going on among the Protestant tenants. Irish papers by the last mail relate that the words "Plan of Campaign" are echoing throughout the most Protestant parts of Ulster. A very remarkable incident is reported from Jerritzpass, in the County Armagh. Jerritzpass is an almost exclusively Protestant district. An attempt to hold a sale of the effects of a farmer, Mr. David Lockhart, was made, but the affair proved a fiasco; for no one would buy, and the auctioneer and sub-sheriff found the proceedings more lively than pleasant. Mr. Lockhart had found it impossible to pay a rent of £14 a year, and his landlord, Captain Douglas, did not see how a loyal Protestant could find it consistent with his constitutional and religious principles to object to be fleeced by one who professed the same principles. It was intended to have the effects of two other farmers of like principles, Mr. Benjamin Thompson and Mr. Gordon, brought under the hammer, but the design fell through from the same causes. When the affair collapsed the people held a meeting. Mr. Edwd. Lockhart was moved to the chair. In the course of an able speech he said that the loyal men of the North were driven by rapacious landlordism to adopt means to protect themselves against eviction and impossible rents. He said he commenced this contest with Captain Douglas, his landlord, on principle, and he means to fight it out, no matter what the consequences might be. The meeting was then addressed by Messrs. Francis Brooks, W. H. Hannah, John Lockhart, E. McGinnis, Poyntzpass, James Smith, Peter Byrne, Newry, and James Treanor. Each of the speakers advised the farmers to sell everything and put the pro-

ceeds in their pockets, as the sheriff is expected every day on the neighboring estates of A. O. Innis, Glenn, and Captain Brooks, Knocksnarney, the meeting then separated, enthusiastically cheering for the Plan of Campaign. Jerritzpass is a Protestant district, and all the farmers to be sold off are Protestants. One of them, Mr. Gordon, is the Master of Perce Orange Lodge.

THE "NO SURRENDER" SURRENDER.

When Sir John Macdonald the other day in the House of Commons flew into a rage and refused to make any satisfactory explanation of his neglect to comply with the terms of his own "standing offer," he only gave the farmers of Canada another proof of the contempt with which he regards them. He was willing to run the risk of retaliation on the part of the United States against Canadian farm products, so long as the sacrosanct N. P., with its "combines," "guilds," monopolies, etc., for fleecing the people remained untouched.

His organs, too, flew into a rage, notably the cracked and tuneless Kazoot, who on Monday last howled with rage at the idea of "the Canadian Government submitting to the dictation of Washington." It would never; no, never, allow "a few blatant demagogues and fire-eaters in the States to dictate how we shall interpret our statutes and the character of the 'reciprocity we shall accept.' After over a column of the same tall talk in King Cambyes vein, the Kazoot screamed defiance in these words:—"When Congress begins to play the 'bully we have no fear that the Canadian 'people will lack the pluck, self-respect and 'manliness to protect their own interests and 'refuse to be coerced into craven submission.'"

Thus spake the Tory Tartuffe on Monday. On Wednesday a change had come over the spirit of its dream. In its issue of this morning all the fury of its no surrender tirade is forgotten, ignored, and it roars as loudly as a sucking dove and this is the tune now played by the Kazoot:—

"Since the discussion in the House last Wednesday relative to Canada placing on the free list certain natural products specified in clause nine of the Tariff Act of the Canada of which have been placed by Congress on the American free list, the attention of the Government has been officially called to the matter by the Washington authorities through Sir Lionel West. The memorandum points out that the products referred to have been made free of customs duty when entering the United States, and the hope is expressed that Canada will reciprocate. The question has been fully considered by the Privy Council and although clause nine is clearly susceptible of two constructions, the Government being desirous of carrying out its avowed policy of reciprocity in natural products, has decided to accede to the request of the Washington Executive, and a proclamation will shortly be issued giving effect to the provisions of clause nine."

Now, will somebody tell us what has become of "the pluck, the self-respect, the manliness," that would "refuse to be coerced into craven submission"?

It would be impossible to imagine a more ridiculous, a more humiliating humbug than this performance of the Government and its organ. They would never submit to the dictation of Washington! Never! Well, hardly ever. And forthwith they submit.

But the truth of the matter is that, since the eyes of the country were opened to the breach of faith committed by the Government, and the disastrous consequences likely to ensue therefrom, Sir John had no option but to back down. If he could have tied the tongue of the Opposition, he would have been all right. He did not care a rap about the farmers, or how much they might suffer from American retaliation. The principle of his protective policy is to diminish the import trade, and force the Canadian people to buy only from the "combines" which keep him in power. Canadians can only buy from abroad by sending their products to foreign markets wherewith to pay for what they buy. As the Hamilton Times puts it:—"The reduction of the price of farmers' products is an additional bonus to the men who make clothing, boots and implements under the protective tariff, and exchange those commodities for farm products. That is why the protectionists in Canada are glad to have the principles of protection prevail in the States, and would be tickled to learn that England had gone back to protection. Their aim is to skin the farmer, and any means to that end is sure to meet their favor."

This episode in the politics of trade, however, furnishes another proof of the soundness of the views we have endeavoured to express in these columns. The commercial relations of Canada and the United States are so intimate that our tariff must, in spite of us, be regulated by that of our neighbours. Every year increases the intimacy. The economic conditions of the continent have no geographical limitations, and the superficial barriers raised by hostile tariffs are going down right and left before the necessities and common sense of the people on both sides of the line.

THE TWO POLICIES.

The debate on Sir Richard Cartwright's Unrestricted Reciprocity resolution and amendments thereto has placed before the public very clearly the opposing policies which the two great parties respectively advocate. It is not necessary here to enter into the arguments advanced on either side. Two large farming constituencies in this Province have plainly demonstrated at the polls that they thoroughly understand the issue, and they have given unmistakable proof of intelligence and patriotism by sending to Parliament representatives to aid the Liberal Opposition in the struggle for commercial freedom.

Undoubtedly the question now being debated in the House of Commons is the most momentous that has ever come before the Dominion Parliament. It may be briefly stated thus:—

Shall we have free trade with sixty millions of people, our friends and neighbors? Or— Shall we remain in commercial bondage to home-made monopolies?

Already the great agricultural classes of Ontario have given their answer in the resolutions adopted by nearly every farmers' institute in the province in favor of Reciprocity. These resolutions are striking proofs of the extent and depth of the discontent prevailing throughout the country regarding the existing fiscal system.