

FREE TRADE WITH ENGLAND.

HOW THE RECIPROCITY RESOLUTION WAS RECEIVED.

The "Times" and Canada's Offer—Views of Politicians—How it would affect Uncle Sam.

The New York Herald, the Sunday after the passage of Mr. McNeill's resolution in the Dominion Parliament for a Canadian-British reciprocity tariff, contained the following important cable from its principal London correspondent, "A Member of Parliament," who is generally understood to be Justin McCarthy, M.P.

A commotion has been stirred up by the resolution passed by the Canadian House of Commons practically offering reciprocity to Great Britain, and thoroughgoing free traders are alarmed, and not without reason. The history of English commerce shows increasing imports and decreasing exports and manufacturers are finding out by experience that this does not mean prosperity.

AN IMPERIAL ZOLVEREIN.
A remedy has long been looked for in the direction of a British imperial zolverein. The first move had to come from the colonies and it has now been made by Canada. It will be welcomed by the working classes. They have been ardent free traders till recently, but the McKinley tariff opened their eyes to the new conditions under which British trade has been carried on. Can one free trade nation fight hostile tariffs successfully all over the world? Philosophers still say "Yes," but practical men are forced to take a different view.

If England can secure a preference for her products in all her colonies she may yet counteract the McKinley tariffs. Leading statesmen are not yet prepared to admit this, but they will soon have to follow the popular will. Even the Times, which has never till now wavered as regards free trade, finds itself compelled to admit that the Canadian offer is worthy of "careful consideration," and that it may "possibly create a new situation altogether."

SURE TO TAKE WITH THE MASSES.
A well known Liberal politician gave me his views on the subject today. "I fear," he said "that free trade is doomed. The idea of a great commercial federation with our colonies is sure to take a firm hold of the masses. They already see that the other nations are determined to strike at British trade both by fair means and foul. The McKinley tariff revealed an animus that went far beyond all previous measures of the kind. Old markets are closing upon us and no new ones opening.

THE RIGHT MOMENT FOR CANADA.
Our people are getting restless and impatient, and Canada strikes in at the right moment. If Lord Salisbury is bold enough to meet her half way I really believe it would extinguish all our chances in the next election. That is also the view of a large section of the conservative party. "Draw nearer to the colonies," they say, "and let the rest of the world continue the war of tariffs, but before any practical steps can be taken in parliament the other colonies must speak out. Should they echo the voice of Canada we may expect to see duties placed on certain American, French and German products, while the same class of goods from the colonies will be duty free.

UNCLE SAM WOULD FEEL IT.
The effect on American cereals, tinned provisions and fruits and other importations would be instantaneous and immense.

Thus, for the first time, the great free trade system of 1846 begins to totter to its very base.

THE RESOLUTION.
Following is Mr. McNeill's resolution, passed by the Dominion House of Commons on St. George's Day, April 25, by 97 yeas to 63 nays, and accepted by the Government. It was a strictly party vote:—

That if and when the parliament of Great Britain and Ireland admits Canadian products to the markets of the United Kingdom upon more favorable terms than it accords to the products of foreign countries, the parliament of Canada will be prepared to accord corresponding advantages by a reduction in the duties it imposes upon British manufactured goods.

Mr. Davis, (P.E.I.), moved a Liberal amendment: "That inasmuch as Great Britain admits in her ports Canadian products free of duties therefore this House recommends that the present scale of duties on goods mainly imported from Great Britain should be reduced."

He attacked the Conservatives for discriminating against Britain for the past 12 years, and said that he was ready to go very much further and prepared to reduce the duty on British imports whether Britain discriminated in favor of Canada or not.

Sir John Thompson characterized the amendment as being insincere and flibustering and wholly inconsistent, coming from the Opposition, and it was lost by 98 nays to 64 yeas.

Egypt.

The Sultan's firman of investiture of Abbas Hilmy as Khedive, was read on the 14th in the presence of the Khedive, the Sultan's Envoy, the Ministers, the financial and legal advisers, the diplomatic body, the high officials, Ulemas and clergy, and of a number of the high officers from the British, French, and Italian fleets which are now in Egyptian waters. Troops belonging to the Egyptian army and to the British army of occupation filled the Abdin square. All Cairo turned out to see the ceremony, and the whole city was illuminated at night. The British Consul-General was accompanied by an escort, furnished by the army of occupation. There is a feeling of universal relief, among high and low, that Egypt, despite the rumours of Turkish interference, preserves its semi-independence, a result due to the resolute action of the British Government.

It is now distinctly settled that the administration of the Sinai Peninsula shall remain as hitherto under purely Egyptian control; and the frontier, as now defined, completely excludes the Turkish Government from any control over the Suez Canal, which will continue to be entirely Egyptian.

THE "SPIRIT OF PATRIOTISM."

By Miss Preston of Ottawa.
The following excellent essay was read at a recent united meeting of the Sons of England lodges of Ottawa:

The life of a nation is like the life of an animal. If an organ continues long inactive, it is gradually weakened and finally useless. The national life also resembles the animal in its likeness to that on which it feeds. Nor can we hope to develop a race of men loving this country if we do not train them to love it. The kindest of parents will not be loved and respected by their children, if those children are not taught that love and respect. We think it looks too undignified, too egotistical, too much of the Spread Eagle style, to show our feelings on this subject. But do not let us forget, that by this silence, we are giving other nations, and our own fellow citizens on the banks of the St. Lawrence, a false impression.

ANNEXATION TALK.
We find men, who draw salaries from the public treasury, standing even in our legislative halls, speaking thinly veiled annexation. We find this question freely and boldly discussed at public meetings in the county of Essex. In an adjoining county not long ago, Wiman told the assembled Canadians that the fate of our country depended on the election of Mr. McKinley for Ohio, (a state so large that it requires New York, Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin added to it before it equals the combined areas of Ontario and Quebec.)

Any of you who have read the report of the commission appointed to investigate the Ontario school troubles, will be better able to understand why Essex and neighboring counties, seem to be the only ones in Ontario where even the shadow of annexation is seen; and will, I believe, agree with me, that it is high time that our children in public schools, should learn to love the land we live in and to respect and admire the constitution that protects us. We also find some of our fellow-citizens in the eastern province, speaking and publishing sentiments far more repellent; but a hundred times less probable than annexation.

UNDERMINING FORCES.
These are some of the forces which are trying to undermine our national spirit, and unless we wish to be eventually extinct as a nation, we must put ourselves in touch with our surroundings (or bring them into line with us) using the weapons best fitted for our purpose, and the most powerful one is a patriotic spirit. It is time Canada said to all such persons, "If you can show us anything in the constitution of other countries materially better than our own, we are prepared to hear it, but if not, then pass off our country's stage, and give place to better men."

It appears probable that in the not far distant future, some change will take place in our form of government. Some persons think Imperial confederation is the most likely, others, a union of the colonies, others favor a sort of Canadian independence. I have neither time nor ability to discuss all or any of these, but shall refer to some other plans, which have been mapped out for our country's future. In doing so I wish first to review them from a purely Canadian standpoint,

without reference to the great nation to which we at present owe allegiance. And believing in patriotism, I shall refer to my own countrymen first.

THE TRICOLOR IN QUEBEC.

I know that some of our fellow citizens plot and dream of a future, when the tri-color shall float from the citadel at Quebec, and the beautiful French language be the mother tongue of Canada, but it is only a dream. The morning sun that flashed on the British red-coats massed on the heights of Abraham prevented forever the realization of such a dream. Our French citizens will be happier and wiser if they put such thoughts and aspirations aside, for it is only a mirage, which sooner or later will vanish, and leave them on an ocean of confusion and sorrow. Any unbiased person calmly looking at the question, must have come to the conclusion that the broad expansive English is destined to be the future language of this continent, and that whatever flag may shelter us, the tri-color can have no part or lot in the government of this country except as an ornament to remind the French Canadian of vanished power and of sunny but unstable France. The French enjoy greater freedom under the red-crossed banner, than they ever could under the tri-color, and the more sensible of them fully realize this. And those persons who for their own selfish purposes stir the hearts of our French people with such a vain hope, will find that in sowing the wind they will reap the whirlwind, and their plans will be scattered like the leaves of autumn by the blasts of winter. The Anglo Saxon is slow to move, but when once roused in his action resembles a mighty glacier, cold, steady, overwhelming. This scheme, I think, we need not discuss.

THE 13 STARS.
Over 100 years ago, just south of us, 13 stars rose suddenly on the horizon of the nations. The telescope of political astronomers descried not their coming. Sparks they seemed thrown from the anvil of Britannia as she moulded the destiny of Europe. Carrying with them the qualities of the metal from which they flew, they soon made a name for themselves and now have become stars of the first magnitude. They are loved at home and respected abroad. Now this offshoot from our parent tree has become a stalwart young giant, and casting his keen calculating eyes northward, sees the beautiful face and admires the broad lands of his young cousin Canada. True to the masculine nature to see is to desire. Stretching both hands across the line fence which divides their farms in clear impassioned tones he addresses the maiden:—

"Coom under me plaidie
"The nights ga'ing to fa:
"Coom in frae the cauld blast
"The drift an' the snaw'
"Coom under me plaidie
"And sit doon beside me,
"On this continent lassie
"There's na room for Twa'.

And while she wonders at this sudden avowal of affection, from one who formerly used to speak of her as the little Canuck, he proceeds to show her the aforesaid plaidie, among the folds of which he invites her to nestle.

(To be continued.)
There is a right time for everything, but the four dollar watch seldom manages to hit it.

The cremation business still seems to experience a good deal of difficulty in turning expenses.

A man who mortgaged his house remarked to a friend that he had just "put up" another building. Deeming wants to write his life and leave it to a friend. But the sheriff will probably dispose of it.

Sailors of the U.S. navy must expect great hard-ships when they are ordered to serve on the new steel cruisers.

Before marrying, a woman trusts in the influence of her love; after marriage she begins to pray for him.

Instead of stocking the Delaware artificially with shad one would think Nature could do it better and make no bones about it.

The funeral of the late Mr. Brinsley Richards, Berlin Correspondent of The London Times, took place at Berlin on Saturday, and was attended by the chief members of the English colony. A wreath of laurel leaves with broad black silk bands, fringed with gold, was sent by the Empress Frederic.

Charles H. Reed, the lawyer who died in Baltimore recently, is said to have lost his law practice and to have become moody after his unsuccessful defense of his brother-in-law, Guiteau.

Fannie Kemble, at 82, is a sadly broken woman. She cannot write a letter except when a friendly hand guides the pen across the paper for her, and all the spirit and vivacity for which the great actress was once famous have left her.

BRITISH DIPLOMATS AND BRITISH TRADE.

THE CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN COL. VINCENT AND THE FOREIGN OFFICE.

The daily papers recently mentioned a correspondence between Col. Howard Vincent and Mr. Lowther, under secretary of state for foreign affairs, respecting the necessity of government aid to push British trade interests abroad. The most interesting portions of Mr. Lowther's reply appear to have been omitted in the reports cabled to this side of the Atlantic, and we are now enabled by the arrival of further accounts by mail to supply them.

Col. Vincent represented that loud complaints had reached him that her Majesty's representatives abroad were not doing as much as they might to promote United Empire Trade, and asked that steps be taken to more largely utilize the services of British diplomatic and consular reports in foreign countries to push United Empire trading interests.

Mr. Lowther's reply was taken up for the most part in recapitulating the steps her Majesty's government had taken in the direction indicated, and in pointing out the difficulties encountered in making further progress at present in China in consequence of the unsettled state of that country.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE QUESTION.

Mr. Lowther then went on to point out that much of the loss of trade complained of resulted from the apathy or neglect of British merchants themselves. He gave several instances in which agents of the Government had interested themselves so far that Bulgarian merchants had written for prices of various kinds of British manufactured goods, and had either received no replies to their letters or such terms had been demanded that they found it to their interest to continue to transact their business with continental houses.

Mr. Lowther continued: "Her Majesty's representative at Sofia suggested to a cloth manufacturer the expediency of obtaining a contract for supplying some 200,000 yards of clothing for the Bulgarian Army. He was met with a response to the effect that the manufacturer in question was in the habit of making goods in blue and grey and was surprised at the Bulgarian troops adopting a green uniform when blue or grey would suit them, in his judgment, equally well!

SUGGESTIONS.
"Her Majesty's representatives in many parts of the world are constantly calling attention in their reports to the advantages which would ensue to British trade from the more frequent employment of energetic commercial travellers familiar with the language of the countries they visit. It is pointed out that such agents are nowadays largely and advantageously utilized by competing nations in pushing their trade in remote countries, where the representatives of British houses are conspicuous by their absence.

"Another point which is worthy of notice is the practice of sending British trade circulars and price lists in the English language, which is often not understood, whereas those from other countries are drawn up in the language of the place to which they are sent.

"It is not for me to criticize the methods of British traders, still less to endeavor to instruct them in their own business; but a careful perusal of the recent Trade Reports, which during the last six months it has been my duty to make, has led me to the opinion that a greater "flexibility of adaptation" to the requirements of foreign markets on the part of British manufacturers could not fail to bring increased business and more profitable results.

A NEW CIRCULAR.
"I may add that I propose to issue a fresh circular directing the attention of her Majesty's Diplomatic and Consular officers to the communication issued on July 22, 1886 relating to the purchase and forwarding of samples of suitable articles, which on arrival could properly be sent to the Chambers of Commerce and other bodies for their inspection. I need hardly say that I should be glad to receive any practical suggestions upon this point which you may find yourself able to offer.

Prince Bismark's physician has selected Nervi, Italy, as a place of winter residence for the ex-chancellor. Not a bad name for the home of the grim old man.

Richard Claverhouse Jebb, LL.D., professor of Greek at Cambridge University, England, is now in the United States. He is a most eminent English classical scholar.

THE AIMS, OBJECTS AND BENEFITS OF THE SONS OF ENGLAND BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Organized in Toronto, December 12th, 1874.

To Englishmen and Sons of Englishmen:

The mission of this Society is to bring into organized union all true and worthy Englishmen; to maintain their national institutions and liberties and the integrity of the British Empire; to foster and keep alive the loving memory of Old England, our native and Motherland; to elevate the lives of its members in the practice of mutual aid and true charity—caring for each other in sickness and adversity and following a deceased brother with fraternal care and sympathies, when death comes, to earth's resting place.

Great Financial Benefits, viz: Sick pay, Doctor's attendance and medicine and Funeral Allowance are accorded. Healthy men between the ages of 18 and 60 years are received into membership. Honorary members are also admitted. Roman Catholic Englishmen are not eligible.

Reverence for and adhesion to the teachings of the Holy Bible is insisted on.

Party politics are not allowed to be discussed in the lodge room.

The Society is secret in its proceedings to enable members to protect each other and prevent imposition—for which purpose an initiation Ritual is provided, imposing obligations of fidelity to the principles of the Society on all who join it.

The Society is making rapid growth and has lodges extending over Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific shores, having a membership upwards of 12,000 at present, the ratio of increase being for greater as the Society's influence and usefulness is better known. Lodges have been started in South Africa and will soon probably be started in England, etc.

The Beneficiary (Insurance) Department is providing insurance to the members for \$1,000 or \$2,000 as desired, at the minimum cost, unsurpassed by any other fraternal Society in Canada. The assessments are graded. A total disability allowance is also covered by the Society. No Englishmen need join other organizations when the inducements of this Department are considered.

Englishmen forming and composing new lodges derive exceptional advantages in the initiation fees, and 12 good men can start a lodge.

The Society is governed by a Grand Lodge with subordinate lodges—the officers of which are elected annually.

In our lodge rooms social distinctions are laid aside and we meet on the common level of national brotherhood, in patriotic association for united counsel and effort in maintaining the great principles of our beloved Society. As such we can appeal to the sympathetic support of all true Englishmen—asking them to cast in their lot with us, thereby swelling the grand roll of those bound together in fraternal sympathies and in devotion to England and the grand cause of British freedom.

Any further information will be cheerfully given by the undersigned.

JOHN W. CARTER,
Grand Secretary.

Grand Secretary's Office,
Shaftesbury Hall,
Toronto, April 1st, 1882.

Fredericton, N.B.

Stirlington No. 151, Fredericton, N.B., meets every alternate Thursday in Church of England Hall, Carleton street, from January 7th, 1882. Visiting brethren always welcome. Chas. W. Beckwith, Pres. A. D. Thomas, Sec.

Prince Edward Island.

Edon, No. 148, Meets in Wright's Hall, at the corner of Kent and Prince streets, the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month, (W. R. D. 2nd and 4th Thursday) of every month. Visiting brethren made welcome. Geo. D. Wright, Pres. | J. Edward Rendle, Sec.

Daughters of England B. S.

Mamilton.

Queen Victoria No. 1, D. O. E. B. S., Mamilton, meets in Reliance Hall, corner James and Rebecca Sts., on the first and third Fridays of each month. Annie Johnston, Hector H. Martin, President. Secretary.

ST. THOMAS, ONT.

Princess Louise, No. 3, D. O. E. B. S., St. Thomas, meets in their Hall Talbot Street, on 1st and 3rd Monday of every month. Visitors welcome. James Brown, E. W. Trump, Sec., President. 154 Manitoba st.

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