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NOTICE TO READERS.

THE ANGLO-SAXON goes regularly to Sons of England lodges and branches of the St. George's Society in all parts of Manitoba, the British Northwest Territories of Canada, British Columbia, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island; to branch societies of the Sons of St. George in all parts of the United States, to Clubs, Reading Rooms, Emigration Societies and similar institutions in Great Britain and Ireland, and to British citizens generally throughout Canada, the States, Great Britain and the Empire.

"FOR REVENUE ONLY."

All tariffs are intended for raising revenue; including even the one at present in force in Canada, the active principle of which is still the National Policy. To listen to some of the comments upon it by opposition orators one would imagine that its sole object is to benefit the bloated monopolist. But nevertheless, until the recent changes were made in it, the necessary revenue for running the government was provided by its means. In addition to this, each of those industries which can claim a natural foundation within the limits of the Dominion are more or less favoured or stimulated, and the rates of customs duties have been raised or lowered in order to benefit the mining, agricultural and mercantile as well as the manufacturing interests of the country. This consideration for these interests or industries the Liberal party proposes to throw entirely aside. As the means of doing this some of the leaders prescribe the adoption of "British Free Trade." Others propose a tariff "for revenue only," and announce that they are willing to provide dollars for revenue "but not a cent for protection." With souls which despise the drudgery of detail, these doctors who prescribe for the body politic are not ready to descend to particulars and explain the nature and action of their nostrum. On the other hand we, who are interested in finding out what they really do mean, are left free to picture to ourselves the nature and tendency of "a tariff for revenue only."

Such a tariff does not necessarily exclude the idea of free trade. Even "British Free Trade," as we tried to show in our last issue, does not mean the total abolition of duties on customs. This was held by no less an authority than Lord Palmerston, and expressed in a speech delivered by him nearly fifty years ago, during the Corn law debates. His actual words are as follows:—"I hold that there is no reason why freedom of trade in corn should not be as advantageous to the country as freedom of trade in every other commodity. But, by free trade, I do not mean necessarily and in all cases, trade free from customs duties. We are obliged, as I have already said, to raise a large yearly revenue, and we must for that purpose have heavy taxes. The least inconvenient and least objectionable method of raising a large portion of that revenue is by indirect taxation and that involves the necessity of customs duties. Therefore when I speak of free trade I do not mean trade free from duties laid on for the purpose of revenue, and which, in order to accomplish their purpose, must be so moderate as not to cripple or impede commercial transactions." In this quotation the line separating a free trade from a protective tariff is drawn very fairly. A free trade tariff and a tariff for revenue are synonymous, and a tariff becomes protective or national whenever it is made use of to bring special benefit to the capital or labour of the country concerned.

The latter policy is distinctly repudiated by the Liberal party; the Canadian tariff is to be stripped of every vestige of protection and reconstructed so as to bear equally on all consumers. It is hard to see how this can be done otherwise than by levying a uniform *ad valorem* rate of duty on all import-

ed goods of every description. The value of these imported into Canada during the year ending 30th June, 1893, amounted to \$121,705,030. During the same period the total amount of customs duties actually collected was \$21,161,710.93. This sum is equivalent to an *ad valorem* rate of duty of 17.3 per cent. on all importations (including, of course, the free goods.) Is this the ideal tariff of the Liberal party? Here we have duties levied for revenue only, utterly free from the taint of being protective and quite incapable of indirectly benefiting one class more than another. The question need not be complicated by discussing possible retrenchments. Expenditure may perhaps be lessened but with the result merely of reducing the amount of the duty. This method of taxing the importations would nevertheless remain the only one that could be said to be imposed for the sole purpose of raising revenue.

Of course there are objections to this plan. On the one hand there is the abolition of the free list. On the other, articles of luxury and indulgence, which have heretofore borne high rates of duty, would come in at the average general rate. But these higher rates are protective, and, since Mr. Laurier has declared that "Protection has been the bane and curse of Canada," they would under a Liberal administration have to go, and with them a very considerable revenue. As regards the free list it is true that Mr. Laurier has said "that the manufacturers would be better off under a revenue tariff, as all raw materials would be free." But, how can this bonus to manufacturers, which is virtually an indirect protection, be allowed under a tariff from which every taint of protection is to be eliminated?

To follow liberal exponents of their financial policy is a most ungrateful task; as difficult as to catch a will-o'-the-wisp or decide on the colour of a chameleon. It is very plain even that the phrases "British free trade" and a "tariff for revenue only" are beginning to lose favour with Liberal rhetoricians. In Mr. Laurier's speech of the 22nd Jany., in Montreal, he says that "the Liberal party demanded the adoption of a sound fiscal policy, which, while not doing injustice to any class, will promote domestic and foreign trade; that the tariff be reduced to the needs of honest, economical and efficient government; that it should be so adjusted as to bear as light as possible on the necessities of life, while promoting freer trade with the whole world, but more particularly with Great Britain and the United States." In all this there is no indication of any particular principle of tariff reform, nothing to characterize any new departure in fiscal policy by Liberal statesmen. In fact Mr. Laurier's sentences might with perfect consistency be incorporated in a political speech by an adherent of the present administration and used to set forth the plans and policy of the government itself. In the past we have had Mr. Blake declaring that "free trade" was impossible in Canada, and it is not unlikely that in the future we may have Mr. Laurier announcing his preference for a policy of "incidental protection" such as has been in force for over thirty years, and repudiating the idea of a tariff "for revenue only" as being unsuitable for the Dominion.

LITTLE ENGLAND.

Our readers are aware that Lord Jersey's report to the Colonial Secretary regarding the proceedings of the Ottawa Conference contains recommendations which favour the granting of aid by the Imperial Government to the Pacific Cable and Atlantic Steamship schemes. This is, of course, matter for congratulation. On the other hand, with reference to the subject of trade relations, which had also been discussed at the Conference, the Imperial representative found himself unable to report in favour of the resolution which expresses the belief of the Conference "in the advisability of a customs arrangement between Great Britain and her Colonies by which trade within the Empire may be placed on a more favourable footing than that which is carried on with foreign countries." Lord Jersey admits that this resolution undoubtedly expresses a desire widely entertained in the Colonies, but adds "what is proposed is that the United Kingdom should create a new customs barrier against foreign produce, and in my opinion the conditions operating in Great Britain would not admit of the acceptance of this proposition."

This declaration will be felt as one extremely unfavourable to the progress of the "United Empire Trade League" and additional obstacles will no doubt

arise in consequence of Lord Salisbury's expression of opinion that no reconsideration of the advisability of a return to protection is possible at the present time. Very likely His Lordships statement has been made out of deference to the Liberal Unionist party, who are his supporters but have been for the most part staunch free traders. Even zealous Imperial Federationists like Lord Brassey are unable to see how detrimental Great Britain's policy of "unrestricted importation" is to the cause of Imperial Unity. In a paper of his regarding "The West Indies in 1892" he states that "It would be a help if the Mother Country could give to the products of Trinidad a preferential position in her markets. This idea can now, however, be no longer entertained; we have called into existence too many industries depending for their success on the cheapness of raw materials." These latter sentences are only useful in provoking a smile, especially in view of the circumstance that the same paper records the following fact:—"By a treaty recently negotiated, the United States admit the Muscovado sugar of Barbadoes duty free, the island agreeing to receive the bread-stuffs it requires from the United States free of duty." Here we have proof of the establishment with a foreign country by a British community of that preferential trade which is declared to be impossible with the United Kingdom.

It is difficult to account for the fearful "free trade" infatuation which prevails in England, but most of it seems traceable to the continued prevalence of narrow, unpatriotic principles, the seeds of which were sown by the radicals of fifty years ago. Chief among these was Richard Cobden, the founder of the Manchester school, who has been described as "a powerful political fanatic," and who pursued his favourite idea of free trade with the same sincerity and vigour with which he afterwards advocated the disbanding of our troops and selling our ships of the line. He maintained that they were unnecessary, that Russia could be "crumpled up like a sheet of paper," that intervention in European feuds was a mistake and the Colonial system a delusion. He looked upon the Colonies and dependencies as worse than encumbrances, entailing upon Great Britain the necessity of supporting a large navy and standing army. He maintained that the Colonies could never be got rid of "except by the indirect process of free trade, which will gradually and imperceptibly loosen the bonds which unite our colonies to us by a mistaken notion of self interest." He wanted to create a "little England." This is the reason why, after the repeal of the Corn laws, he and his followers set themselves to make war on the West Indies. Taxation could have been lessened and revenue sacrificed by reducing the duty on tea rather than that on sugar from foreign ports, but the free traders were bent on the disintegration of the Empire. That they were utterly unprincipled in their action is proved by the fact that after the West Indies had partially recovered, and their plantations were again assailed by the bounty-fed sugar of European nations, who thus trampled free trade principles under foot, England, controlled by the free traders, did not move a little finger to relieve her own children. Then, indeed, was it seen by the nations of the world that the grand old Mother Country was liable to become a very small England indeed.

The conspiracy of the free traders and radicals against the Empire was well planned, but it was only half successful. The West Indies were ruined, and India brought to the verge of bankruptcy, but the self-governing Colonies each invented fiscal policies suited to their several needs and escaped shipwreck. Above all, the loyalty of the race to a United Empire flamed out and discomfited the "little Englishmen" at home. British Colonists took the same stand as the delegates to the Ottawa Conference who, in the words of Sir John Thompson, assembled there "not to consider the prospects of separation from the Mother Country, but to plight our faith anew to each other as brethren, and to plight anew with the Mother Land that faith which has never yet been broken or tarnished."

That noble declaration is a guarantee of the integrity of the Empire. It tells of the high resolve of the outer Empire that the Mother Country shall never become a "Little England." At the same time it is necessary that the good man and true in Old England should look into this matter and not allow themselves to be over-ruled by "bold and turbulent minorities." The policy which was devised for the very purpose of breaking up the Empire should be

abandoned at the earliest possible moment, and the commercial interests of the various parts of the Empire protected with the greatest care. Not until then will it be possible to make proper provision for the defence of the Empire as a whole. Its various parts must be nursed, nourished and favoured during peace in order to be ready for war. There is a warfare possible during peace which may dangerously impair our natural resources, and as an American author has said:—"It is clear that the patriotism which can sleep through this industrial warfare and suffer this trade spoliation, and can only be roused into activity by the danger and passion of flagrant war; which can vote the public money to maintain rarely used armies, navies and forts, but cannot give the slightest aid or comfort to the real and constant defenders of its 'countries' independence—its industrial soldiers, is a patriotism belonging to periods long gone by, and is of little more present use than a bow and arrow."

"NEW ORANGEMEN."

"Fraternal and National Orders have the respect and admiration of the world, and he who preaches against them knows nothing of them, and simply degrades himself and obstructs the advance of Christianity."

The *Cape Mercury*, of King William's Town, South Africa, under date of December 6th, 1894, speaks of our worthy brother, T. N. Dyer, Deputy Grand President of the Sons of England of that colony, in the following manner:—

"The statement made on Friday night by the Right Worthy Deputy Grand Lodge Officer of the Sons of England in South Africa bears out exactly the statements which the *Cape Mercury* has made, and which other worthies of the organization resented. Mr. T. N. Dyer, in a characteristic, knock-kneed manner, haltingly admitted that the aim in Canada was to oppose the French element, and then he went on to affirm that such a movement was not required in this country. This was our contention from the very start of the Sons of England Society. Protestantism rests on its own broad basis, and needs not to sail under any disguises of mock patriotism and rank bigotry. It is a cowardly business to shelter one's self behind the Union Jack to strike at Popery. However, after Mr. Dyer's confession, let us see if he knows the meaning of "having the courage of one's convictions." The popular 'Uncle Tom' stands self-confessed as the local head of a strong anti-Roman Catholic anti-Foreign organization, not wanted here, and of the aims of which he is ashamed. Mr. Dyer is typical of many Englishmen who come abroad and leave their principles behind them, and it is pleasant to put a shot across such craft and make them run up their colours. If the Sons of England wish to be Orangemen let them be so, and while disagreeing with them we will respect their opinions; but we have nothing but contempt for the men who are simply hypocrites and take solemn oaths which they do not intend to keep."

The above refers to the Order of the Sons of England, and the remarks by the *Mercury* is a convincing proof that the editor is narrow-minded, not being able to grasp the feelings of human nature throughout the world.

It is clear to all Sons of England that the trouble to look into the constitution and aims of the Sons of England, which is as broad and liberal as the monarchical constitution of the Empire.

The numerical and financial standing of the Order in South Africa are very substantial. The figures we quote are taken from the report presented to Grand Lodge last year, and are made up to August, 1893:—Members, 308; cash capital, \$11,001.80. The lodges in South Africa are making steady progress and the Order is becoming popular among Englishmen of that colony. We expect to have the Sons of England, in Africa, holding the same prominence as they do in Canada. We are working for the consummation of the same object in Australia and New Zealand, and it will be accomplished in a few years, as soon as the aims of the Order are more generally known among Englishmen in these portions of our Empire.

To-day there is a strong national feeling for unity among Englishmen, which has hitherto not shown itself. It is growing in strength every day. About 20 years ago the first gathering of Englishmen took place and the Order was established, now we have some 220 lodges on the roll, with a membership of over 14,000.

We take no stock in the anti-Roman Catholic and anti-Foreign cry of the *Mercury*, but the stronger the Sons of England become in South Africa the stronger will be the proof of the attachment of that colony to the Empire.

The Sons of England Society have all confidence in the ability of the Supreme District Officer Bro. T. N.

Dyer to lead and organize the Englishmen of South Africa, and make their influence felt as a political and social factor in that part of our Empire."

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE EAST.

In an article on France and Madagascar, the *Vossische* says:—"If England wishes to remain a ruling Power, such as she has been hitherto, she must maintain her prestige in the Pacific and Indian Oceans. Disraeli's achievement in inducing the Queen of England to assume the by-title of Empress of India was more than an empty accessory. It was an act of deeply symbolic importance. There are unmistakable symptoms that the Eastern hemisphere is about to become the scene of most important historical events. . . . England will have to exert herself more in future, in order effectually to defend her territorial possessions and maintain her commercial superiority in the Indian Ocean. We do not doubt her ability to perform the tasks that await her. A country that possesses India need not envy the French Madagascar, and a country which has such a history as England need not fear the naval power of the French. But she must be conscious of her power, and resolved to use it if necessary."

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