

condition that will withdraw from them the legal ability to send people to prison for doing good to suffering humanity when not done in strict accordance with the Ontario Medical Act. This Act permits of the most outrageous oppression, and is of a character a hundred fold more protective in its operations than any tariff law that was ever enacted in any country.

The best way to settle the question as to whether or not suspenders cannot be made as cheaply in Canada as in the United States is to let the people of Canada buy them where they can make the best bargains. It matters little whether they are cheaper in one or the other of two protection countries. The question for Canadians is: Are they as cheap as they should be? If the people, when free, adopt some other method of obtaining them, it is proof that the present method is made burdensome by restrictions. —Toronto Globe.

The best way to break up and destroy important Canadian manufacturing industries, which give employment to thousands of industrious Canadian working men and women, is to open the doors to the output of foreign factories that give employment to foreigners. The Globe's cry for cheapness is a demand for the prevalence of the worse condition that could possibly prevail.

The British Museum possesses an iron axe-head of 1370 B. C., the oldest authenticated iron implement known, but a piece of iron was found in an air-passage of the great pyramid which may have been there since 3700 B. C. A bronze cylinder of 3223 B. C. is the oldest bronze in the British Museum.

Commenting on the prices which were recently paid in Toronto for seats at the Patti performance, and the still greater prices paid to hear Mr. Irving and Miss Terry, The Toronto Globe says:—

Extreme poverty is the necessary accompaniment of superabundant wealth. Nature is bountiful and yields plenty for all, but she is not prodigal, and she can endure wastefulness only by pinching in certain places. Nothing does more to increase the disparity between the rich and poor than restrictions and tariffs for the benefit of a favored few. The National Policy has fulfilled the prediction of Alexander Mackenzie even sooner than he expected.

These remarks are true as far as they represent the sentiments advanced by Henry George, but the application to the National Policy is exceedingly far-fetched. The Globe while attending these performances could not but have noticed that of the men who were present at them there were no manufacturers who had been so benefited by what it calls the "restrictions of the tariff" as to afford to pay any such fancy prices for their amusement. Lawyers, physicians, importers, etc., were there in large numbers and all arrayed in immaculate evening dress, but no manufacturers.

Mr. Thos. J. Watters, acting commissioner of Customs, has issued a memorandum to collectors of customs in which he advises them that beef extract, manufactured by an American firm, may be admitted to entry at the values therein mentioned, the said values to apply to any and all quantities of the goods. These goods are put up in jars ranging in capacity from one ounce to 16 ounces; in bottles ranging from 2 ounces to 16 ounces, and in cans of 10 pounds capacity. This is an important and timely ruling,

as it precludes the possibility of large quantities of the goods, which may have been purchased at low prices, coming into the country at lower prices, and paying lower duty than smaller quantities for which higher prices may have been paid. It is to be hoped that the spirit of this ruling may be extended to all classes of merchandise.

A writer to the New York Sun says the new industry of making linen cloth has got a foothold in Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. The factory in Eau Claire, Wis., is making excellent linen, and is prosperous and growing fast. It was established by Belfast linen spinners, who moved their plant over to America. And now more linen makers are going to America. Germany, Belgium, and Ireland will not, he states, continue to send £4,000,000 worth of linen cloth annually to the States. The Americans, he asserts, are about to grow fine flax and make this linen themselves. In a conversation with the writer, Mr. James Girdwood, of the firm of James Girdwood & Co., Belfast, said Irish manufacturers were looking to America now. They could do better to manufacture linen in the States, as the Coats thread people do their thread. They wanted raw material free at first, or till they could establish their manufactories. If, says Mr. Girdwood, Cleveland will give raw flax free and keep the tariff on linen cloth where it is, America will soon steal hundreds of linen factories from Europe; and when the factories are established the American farmers will go to work and raise the flax to supply them. Eventually, with raw material free, Minnesota and Wisconsin could make linen cheaper than they can make it and send it fifteen hundred miles inland. A good deal of the foregoing is obviously not founded on probabilities.

Which is the better form of "paternal" interference by the government in behalf of workmen: to maintain tariff duties which will permit them to earn fair wages by fair labor, or to expend public money upon soup-houses and upon public work for which there is no pressing need? Since the revolution against the tariff succeeded, the latter plan has found much favor with certain free trade journals. The New York World, for example, has actually demanded that the federal government shall make a large appropriation to a general pauper fund; and in Philadelphia, the Record and the Times cordially approve the plan of bringing idle men into the service of the city. As things are, any method which will help honest men to escape hunger is preferable to no method. But if the free trade editors care for consistency it would be thought that, after the present experiences, they would be slow in the future to denounce the protective system upon the ground that it taxes all the people for the benefit of those persons who are employed in the protected industries. This nation has to choose between maintaining protection or resorting to that system of trade under which nearly two million persons in the British Islands are at this moment living in a condition of pauperism, dependent upon the public bounty. The Soup-House Movement in Philadelphia is the firstfruits of a political revolution which, if it shall be completed, will make the soup-house a permanent American institution.—The Manufacturer.

The foreign trade of Newfoundland is about \$54 per