

Nothing could be more practically Disloyal, Unpatriotic, and Unchristian than the Hard Money Legislation of England, aggravated by her recent Irreciprocal Free Trade.

ITS EFFECT, IF NOT ITS INTENTION, AS THE OLD ENGLISH RADICALS WHOM I HAVE SEEN HANGED AND BEHEADED AVERRED, BEING TO EXTIRPATE OR SILENCE THE INDEPENDENCE OF THAT GREAT CLASS, WHICH PROPERLY IS THE NATION, WHO LABOR FOR THEIR BREAD, BY CONTRACTING NOT ONLY THEIR WAGES, BUT THEIR EMPLOYMENT; THUS MAKING LIFE A MERE SCUFFLE FOR EXISTENCE, WITH NO LEISURE FOR THOUGHT EITHER IN REGARD TO TIME OR ETERNITY, THUS ALSO (ACCORDING TO THE OLD RADICAL SUPPOSITION) MAKING THE PEOPLE MORE EASILY GOVERNED—THE VERY CONTRARY EFFECT THAT SUCH INHUMANITY WILL HAVE IN AMERICA

AN INDEPENDENT MONEY FOR EACH COUNTRY THE GREAT NATIONAL DESIDERATUM.

It has been my conviction for more than forty years, (evidenced by my evidence before the Upper Canada Parliament in 1837, and my writings and speeches ever since) that all that ignorant legislation could do has been done to make Canada a second Ireland: and that its not being made so is wholly attributable to there being here a superfluity of land on which the people could take refuge as landlords.

PAPER MONEY THE REMEDY FOR IRELAND.

And since the unhappy policy towards Ireland, as well as Canada, is now up for reversal, it is not a deviation from my subject, but rather a means of illustrating it, that I take this opportunity of calling to mind that I have always seen and said that an independent money for Ireland is the only remedy for the evils under which England ignorantly, rather than with bad intention, leaves that country to groan.

Sir Charles Metcalfe was said to have given more serious thought to the subject of Ireland than any man of his day who was equally capable, and it was my unspeakable privilege to have opportunities of discussing it with him when he was here as Governor-General, thirty-five years ago. Previously I held the strong opinion, which I still continue to hold, that the solution of Ireland's case is not difficult, but indeed very simple, and that the difficulty is not so much with Ireland as with England, from *her class legislation having made her a financial feudalism*. And I used to insist, in my conversations with Sir Charles Metcalfe, that the landlords having the power of taking their rents away from Ireland in gold is practically nearly the whole evil. His Excellency left Canada thirty-five years ago, and had my remedy been adopted then I have no doubt that long before this time Ireland would have been the most desirable part of the mother country. I would simply have had the Government of Ireland issue an independent currency for Ireland, the effect of which would be to keep the money in Ireland. The payment to the landlords would be legal tender paper orders for some commodity in Ireland, (including gold of course), at its value in Ireland; and these paper orders being the only money in Ireland would soon have put a stop to the over-importations of outside labor in the shape of goods which have helped to suck the country of its legal life's blood.

I would also use the national paper money of Ireland to purchase Large Estates from the absentee landlords, for cutting up into small Holdings, to be paid, principal and interest, gradually in 30 or 40 years, including a life insurance to secure, on the death of the small purchaser occurring, the land would be free of debt. But I would not have Government to continue connected with the land, and would sell the mortgages taken in payment for it; which process would return money into the hands of the Government to repeat the transaction *ad infinitum*. And sure I am not only that this plan would work out the salvation of Ireland, but that in no way, except by the instrumentality of a national legal tender paper money, can this be effected, since in no other way can prosperity, with its benign result peace, be secured to that country. Sir Robert Peel's monetary legislation reduced the circulation of Ireland one-half; and his free import measure was perhaps a greater blow to her; these together putting all the impediments that legislation could put in the way of a COUNTRY ITSELF GLORIOUS; so that at present every humane and intelligent heart must feel with Tom Moore with regard to unhappy Ireland:

"Oh! let grief come first,
O'er pride itself victorious,
To think how man has cursed
What God had made so glorious."

The great Daniel O'Connell, (whom I had the high gratification to hear speak both in and out of Parliament,) was an enthusiastic disciple of that greatest thinker, the great and good John Taylor, of London, the great father and philosopher of emblematic money. I preserved O'Connell's eloquent words in eulogy of the incalculable benefit to a country of its having an independent money, but, unfortunately I cannot, at the moment, lay my hand on them. I shall, however, I hope, be able to re-produce them in some future publication, and in doing so I shall feel that I am doing a great benefit to humanity by strengthening the cause of monetary reform; for O'Connell knew more of the subject than even the statesmen of the present day seem to do; although probably nine in ten of these are converts to the cause, although the all-powerful financial feudalism prevents them daring to profess this.

O'Connell knew that as in spiritual matters religion is nothing to the mind unless it is allowed to be everything, so this Religion of Humanity (which this question amounts to)

refuses to take anything but the *first* place in our secular legislation. But, as the result of long circumstantial causes, the Church not unnaturally finds itself in that position in England, and thus is an insuperable impediment to getting the question of the living of the people into Parliament, seeing that many members are elected from their safety as Churchmen to one from his principles and ability as a social reformer. So that unless it could be expected that England would yield to Ireland what she would deny to herself, the only hope for Industrial Reform for Ireland was its becoming seen that the possibility of prosperity in England, and therefore the possibility of preserving her Executive Institutions, depended on a patriotic and Christian revolution in her legislation.

It was with a mind thus perplexed that O'Connell may be supposed to have been in the way of exclaiming,

"Hereditary bondsmen know ye not,
Who would be free themselves must strike the blow."

The blow wanted to be struck was not against the British Government, but against certain disloyal, unpatriotic and unchristian English legislation—not to press down the interests of any legitimate class, but to put up and secure those of all classes in the permanent elevation of the purchasing power of labour, through securing a continual demand for it, by upsetting the monopoly which Gold now enjoys over all other property, not excepting the poor man's labour. And no doubt O'Connell anticipated that long ago the people's eyes in England as well as Ireland would have opened to the fact that legislation in favor of hard money fixed in *price* without regard to the local *value* of the metal made a legal tender, with the aggravation of unreciprocal free trade, amounts to practical Communism—that worst Communism which makes labour and fixed property *divide* irreciprocally with money capital, and is thus practically disloyal to the Crown, as well as unpatriotic and unchristian, whatever its intention.

AN INDEPENDENT MONEY WITH AN INTEREST STANDARD CONVERTIBLE INTO A PRODUCTIVE PROPERTY, BUT NOT INTO GOLD AT AN ARBITRARY FIXED PRICE HAVING NO REFERENCE TO ITS LOCAL VALUE, INDISPENSIBLE TO THE POSSIBILITY OF PROSPERITY IN CANADA.

I intend this explanation for the public meeting on the subject of currency reform