

The Free Press, LONDON, ONT.

Wednesday, April 1, 1891.

ANTI-CANADIAN STILL.

The efforts which the Government is making to extend the commerce of Canada are being neutralized, to a large extent, by the counter-efforts of the Liberals. Hon. Mr. Foster visited the West Indies last fall and made certain propositions for a reciprocity of trade; but he had not left the Islands before the Toronto organ of the Liberals, at the dictation of Sir Richard Cartwright, advised the West India people to reject any trade offer from Canada. And from that day to this, while the negotiations are pending, the Globe has persistently endeavored to prejudice our case in the tropics. The ground upon which it pursues these hostile and anti-Canadian policies are as remarkable as they are indefensible. It is said, in the first place, that the West Indies cannot accept the offer of reciprocity from Canada, because the offer of the United States is so much more liberal. Who says it is more liberal? That is a pure conjecture on the part of Sir Richard Cartwright's organ. Suppose, however, it be as liberal as ours, that is all the stronger reason why the United effort should be made to present our case in as favorable a light as possible. When an influential journal turns away from the cause of its own country and becomes the special commercial agent of a rival nation, things have really come to a pretty pass.

In the second place, it is argued that Canada cannot expect freer trade relations with the West Indies while the N. P. remains. This is a pitiable absurdity. The tariff of the United States is more than twice as high as ours, and yet that fact did not prevent an aggregate trade of over \$350,000,000 last year, between that country and the West Indies and South American republics. The West Indies are also highly protected States. So that on the score of duties, the situation is in our favor, rather than in favor of the United States. If the fact of a protective tariff is a serious obstacle, then the Globe should use its influence to point out the superior inducements presented by Canada to the West Indies. It will always seem absurd to a man of common sense to argue that a tariff of 28 per cent. should keep the West Indies from trading with Canada, while the same journal commends the inducements of a country having a 62 per cent. tariff.

Why the Toronto organ of the Liberals should just now put itself in the position of a zealous advocate of United States interests is somewhat difficult to understand. Mr. Brown, the Canadian commissioner at Jamaica, writes to say that our trade prospects are most promising. The goods sent from the Dominion to Kingston have given perfect satisfaction. In the very lines in which the United States has done a trade of over \$100,000,000 a year with the Islands, it has been found that the Canadian product is better. This is particularly true of our flour, bacon, butter and cheese. Other lines of goods stand equally high. We seem to have made an excellent opening, and the Government has taken steps to provide adequate transportation facilities. But, at this critical juncture, it steps the Liberal leaders and their organ with a vigorous opposition. "You mustn't think of trading with Canada," they say. "You must keep on doing business with the United States, which offers you very much better inducements than we can hold out. Tell Mr. Foster to go about his business."

This is not an overdrawn picture. It is the plain truth. The greatest fear which these Liberal have just now is, that something may happen to improve and widen the trade of the country. Having committed themselves to the doctrine that our hopes depend wholly on the United States, they are bound that every obstacle shall be thrown in the way of trade in any other direction. More than that, they are bound that nobody but themselves shall secure freer trade between Canada and the United States. These may be very good tactics from a party standpoint, but they are utterly indefensible on national or patriotic grounds. In no other country on the face of the earth can so desperate and unpatriotic an opposition be found. They seem perfectly willing to wreck their country rather than have it prosper under the administration of Sir John Macdonald. But our hopes of relief from this alarming state of affairs lie in the good sense of the great rank and file of the Liberal party. Surely there must be a time near at hand when they will call upon their leaders to halt.

In order to cope with the new alliance of employers, a secret meeting of leaders held in the first part of last week at Berlin has concluded to forbid, until further notice, all aggressive strikes. Furthermore, workmen are warned against asserting their membership as union men, Socialists, or progressive laborers in general. "Act the stupid dog," so says the official advice. "Submit to all indignities piled upon you, and if necessary subscribe to the most infamous shop regulations ever concocted in a capitalistic brain. It is for the good of our cause, and your present sufferings will be atoned for in a bright future. One must have money to carry on war, and we must get as much as possible of the employers' booty to be able to fight them."

Reports on the effect of the extraordinarily severe weather in Great Britain last week are just beginning to come in. For example, five thousand lambs and sheep perished on the Welsh hills in a single week. Bodies of wild birds have been found in enormous numbers on the melting of the snow. Fish also perished in great quantities.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

According to the report recently issued by the Minister of Education for this Province, the compulsory powers invested in school trustees are not exercised, for in rural sections for 1889—the latest statistics up to date—21 per cent. of the school population attended school less than 100 days in the year, as prescribed by law, 15 per cent. in towns and 5 per cent. in cities. There is no doubt the reason the Statutes on this point are not recognized is owing to the fact that school trustees and parents are generally ignorant with regard to them. The amended and revised legislation of 1885 distinctly states that the parent or guardian of every child not less than seven years nor more than thirteen years of age is required to cause such child to attend a public school, or any other school in which elementary instruction is given, for the period of one hundred days in each public school year, unless there be some reasonable excuse for non-attendance. And any person who receives into his house a child of any other person under the age of thirteen years, and who is resident with him or in his care or employment, shall be deemed thereby to be subject to the same duty with respect to the elementary education of such child. In the case of each such child who is employed in any manufacturing, one-half of the whole time required by this Act for instruction shall be deemed to be sufficient instruction in such case, provided such child is certified by a public school inspector as having passed the examination for promotion from the third reader to the fourth reader, according to the curriculum of studies prescribed by the Education Department. Then the Trustees may appoint a truancy officer, who shall be furnished with a list containing the names of all children between the ages of seven and thirteen, to ascertain, and report for their information, any parent or other person who has failed or omitted to perform the duty of providing that each child between the ages aforesaid is attending some school, and it shall be the duty of such officer to notify such parent or other person of his neglect or violation of duty and the consequences thereof. And it shall be the duty of the trustees of every rural school section, and of every city, town and incorporated village, respectively, and they are hereby authorized to impose upon said parents or guardians who, after having been notified, continue to neglect or violate the next preceding seven sections of the Act, or any of them, a rate-bill not exceeding \$1 per month for each of their children not attending school, or to make complaint of such neglect or violation to a justice of the peace having jurisdiction in such cases, as provided by this Act, and to deliver to said justice a statement of the names and residences of the parents or guardians of such children, unless from the circumstances of the case the trustees are satisfied that such neglect or violation has not been wilful, or has been caused by extreme poverty, ill-health, or too great a distance from any school. It shall be competent for the police magistrate of any city or town, or for any justice of the peace in any village, township or town where there is no police magistrate, to investigate and decide upon any complaint made by the trustees, or by any person authorized by them, against any parent or guardian for the violation of the provisions of this Act, in regard to compulsory education, and to impose a fine not exceeding \$5 for the first wilful offence, and double that penalty for every subsequent offence; which fine and penalty shall be enforced as provided by the Act. And also it shall be the duty of the police magistrate, or any justice of the peace where there is no police magistrate, to ascertain, as far as may be, the circumstances of any person complained of for not sending his children to some school, or otherwise educating him or them, and whether the alleged violation has been wilful, or has been caused by extreme poverty, or ill-health, or too great a distance from any school; and in any of the latter cases the magistrate shall not award punishment, but shall report the circumstances to the trustees of the school section in which the offence has occurred.

CANADIAN HENS TO THE FORE.

The following item is taken from the Detroit News of March 29th:—"The McKinley Bill, contrary to expectations, has not lowered the price of eggs in Windsor. Eggs sold freely in Windsor yesterday at 20 cents per dozen, while in Detroit they were obtainable at 16 cents. Two prominent merchants of Windsor shipped 120 dozen eggs from Detroit. There is no Canadian duty."

It must be a great surprise to the Americans to find that by placing an almost prohibitory duty on Canadian eggs they have helped to raise the price of them here, and created a new market in Canada for their own "hen-fruit." But so it is. The advance in eggs here last week was caused by the great demand for exportation to Great Britain. The McKinley Bill has proven a blessing in disguise, inasmuch as it has forced us to seek a new market for eggs, and a market that will absorb all our surplus at remunerative prices. It is found that in this branch of trade the American market can be treated as of secondary importance. It may be a convenient, but is not a necessary one. Experiments lately carried on by Prof. Saunders have demonstrated that eggs can be kept for months at a time without deterioration. When this process shall become thoroughly introduced, Canadians will be quite independent of the United States market; in fact, in a better position with regard to this particular product than before the attempt to crowd them to the wall by means of the McKinley Act. It is the same with the other products

which it was thought would be disastrously affected by the increased tariff. We are finding in England ready sale for all the well-bred horses that we can raise. The tariff has been a partial blow to the trade in workers, such as are used for street car service, delivery wagons, and that kind of employment, but in a few years the use of horses for street cars will be wholly superseded by the cable and electric motors, and that demand will altogether cease. Meantime our people will turn their attention to the production of a superior class of horseflesh, which is always in request both in England and the United States at high prices, McKinley or no McKinley. It is the same also with barley. If the United States brewers cease to use the six-rowed variety which we have been producing hitherto, we can just as well raise the two-rowed, which is in constant demand in England. There is no need to sit down and lament because of the McKinley tariff. The true remedy is that which Canadians have already adopted—seek elsewhere for a consuming population that is found in England.

CURRENT TOPICS.

An eminent German has been counting the number of hairs in human heads of different colors. In a blonde one he found 140,400, in a brown 109,440, in a black 102,962, and in a red one 88,740.

A frontier town has settled the social question in a novel manner. Those who put out their washing belong to the aristocracy; those who do their own laundry work are members of the middle class, and those who take in washing form the lower class.

An enterprising western insurance agent has struck a new idea in advertising. He engages a lot of pretty girls, and has them driven through the town on an open wagon, with the legend above them:—"The men we marry must insure in the company."

Recruiting sergeants in London are unable to secure the desired new material for the ranks, and threats of conscription are made by the military authorities. It is suggested by the London Press that a good round sum as bounty money would tempt many to enter the service. Conscription, it is said, would not be tolerated.

There is a growing suspicion abroad that Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll has greatly modified his views as to a future state. This is strengthened by the closing remark in this tribute to Lawrence Barrett last week, as follows:—"Will this drama have an end? Will the curtain fall at last? Will it arise again upon some other stage? Reason says 'perhaps' and hope will whisper 'yes.'"

The late Lord Beauchamp of England, was always planning for the future. A week or two before his death he was in the garden of one of his country places, and asked his gardener how long a handsome avenue of trees would last. "About fifty years," said the gardener. "Then you must have something ready to take their place," he said, and promptly ordered fifty young oaks to be prepared for planting.

The latest frill of the ultra-fashionable world is canine collars—not those of metal but of choicest linen immaculately starched and ironed. In connection therewith are white lawn ties which give the accompanying dogs quite a recherche appearance. It is allowable, however, to encase the neck of one's pet pug in a circle of leather, provided the leather is white. Necklaces of ivory are also in vogue. Absurdity goeth no further.

Rabbi Schindler, of Boston, who is continually adding to the evidence which we have that he is a very learned and wise man, has been advising the bachelors and spinsters of the Hub to get married. The Boston Herald advises them, after they have pondered on his precepts to "overhaul their Thackeray and find where the eminent novelist says that a man who waits to make his chosen woman happy until he can drive her to church in a carriage with a pair of horses is no better than a coward, who is neither worthy of love nor fortune."

The streets of Kazan, Russia, are crowded with starving laborers who have come to seek work in that city. In the poorhouses and the police stations not half the number of the wretched people can find coin by night, and in the day time they accost every one in the street begging for work to do or for a morsel of bread to still their hunger. The price of labor has fallen to twenty kopecks per day; but even at that unheard-of price there is not work enough in the city to employ the crowds of work seekers. The local papers describe the situation as "simply desperate."

The latest combination has just been effected among the Jewish butchers of Philadelphia. The price of Kosher meat has advanced in consequence, and there has arisen much dissatisfaction among the Jewish residents. In the southern part of the city every Jewish butcher has joined the new movement, while in the northern portion only a few continue selling at the old figures. Prices have been advanced about one-third, and the orthodox Jews have staring them in the face the alternative of getting one-third less meat for their money or depriving themselves.

A commercial traveller coming from the Michigan Central depot on a Cass and Third avenue car gave away the secrets of the profession in conversation with a friend, says the Detroit Free Press. "Most travelling men," he said, "have little schemes of their own that they work to defray incidental expenses. My strong point is dealing in Canadian coins. My territory is in Ohio, and in all Ohio cities and towns Canadian coins are discounted twenty cents on the dollar. Twenty-five cent pieces pass for twenty cents and half dollars for forty cents. I have \$20 worth of quarters and halves in my satchel now that I bought in Toledo to-day for \$16. In Detroit I use them to pay hotel and cigar bills and realize their face value."

When coal was first used in England the prejudice against it was so strong that the House of Commons petitioned the King to prohibit the use of the "noxious" fuel. A royal proclamation having failed to abate the nuisance, a commission was issued to ascertain who burned coal within the city of London and its neighborhood, to punish them by force for the first offence, and by the demolition of their furnaces if they persisted in transgressing. A law was finally passed making it a capital offence to burn coal in the city, and only allowing it to be used by forges in the vicinity. It is stated that among the records in the Tower of London a document was found, according to which a man was hanged in the time of Edward I. for no other crime than having been caught burning coal.

Cotton Root Compound.
Composed of Cotton Root, Tansy and Pennyroyal—prepared by an old physician. Is successfully used monthly by thousands of women, and has been prescribed in a practice of over 30 years. Price, \$1. Doctor's consultation hours, 9 to 11 and 1 to 4. Diseases of women treated only. Sealed particulars, two stamps. Ladies only, address Woodward Avenue, Detroit, Mich.

OAK HALL

The Great One-Price Clothiers.

Suits that will fit any man.
Prices to suit any man.

\$5 will buy a good serviceable suit. You never saw a suit as good for the money.

\$6 will give you a larger choice.

\$8—At this figure we show some extra values.

\$10—The popular price. The assortment at this figure literally includes everything the most fastidious could look for—light or dark shades.

\$12 and \$15—Now we can please the stylish dressers. We'll show you every style and fabric that's worthy to grace such a stock as this. Our ready-made suits cannot be matched by any tailor for double the money.

It Has No Equal.

OAK HALL

150 Dundas Street, London.

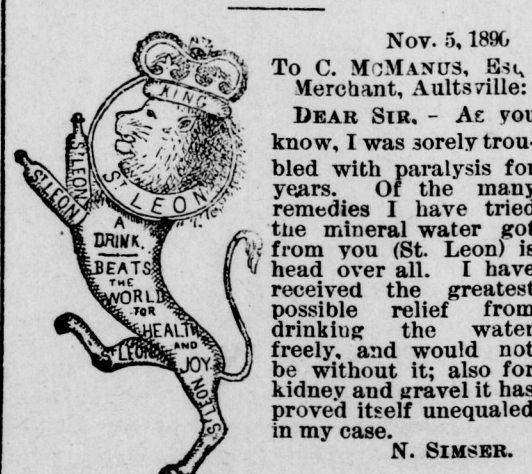
Alt. Taylor, Manager.



Try it Once and You will Always Use It.

The Barm Yeast Manufacturing Co. Toronto, Ont. Telephone 1290.

Paralysis and Kidney Complaint



ST. LEON MINERAL WATER CO., Ltd

101 King St. West, Toronto.
Branch Office, Tidy's Flower Depot, 164 Yonge Street, Toronto.
Sold by Alex. Fryler, grocer, 264 Richmond Street; W. S. Strong, 184 Dundas Street; W. S. Parkwell, 288 Dundas Street; C. McCallum, druggist, London and in all the first-class hotels.

CASTORIA

for Infants and Children.

"Castoria is so well adapted to children that I recommend it as superior to any prescription known to me." H. A. ASCHER, M.D., 111 So. Oxford St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

THE CASTORIA COMPANY, 77 Murray Street, N. Y.

CHECK TROUSERINGS.

Plain Shepherd Plaids, Fancy Shepherd Plaids, newest styles in the trade, beautiful designs and qualities.

BAPTIST

Dundas Street.

C. R. SOMERVILLE,

PAPER BOXES!
644 DUNDAS ST

CONFEDERATION LIFE.

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO.

CAPITAL AND ASSETS OVER

FOUR MILLION DOLLARS.

INCOME,

Three-Quarters of a Million.

OVER

\$19,000,000 BUSINESS IN FORCE.

W. C. MACDONALD, Actuary.

J. K. MACDONALD, Managing Director

WM. MALLOCH & CO.,

MACHINISTS

Manufacturers of

ELEVATORS!
Cranes, Shuffling, Pulleys, Hangers and Special Machinery.

154 FULLARTON ST., LONDON. A. H. H. W.

The Canada Sugar Refining Co.

Redpath (Limited), MONTREAL



We are now putting up, expressly for family use, the finest quality of PURE SUGAR SYRUP, not adulterated with Corn Syrup, in 2-10 cans, with movable tops.

FOR SALE BY ALL CROCCERS.

W&S.

WOOD ENGRAVING

Photo Engraving.

ZINC ETCHING, ETC.

Cuts of every description executed in a manner that will give entire satisfaction, and at reasonable figures. Anyone desiring anything in any of the above lines should write for samples and prices. Address

ENGRAVING DEPARTMENT FREE PRESS PTG. CO.

London - - Ontario.