

Colonies and the Mother Country, and recognizing the material and political advantages of the largest possible exchange of commodities between the various portions of the Empire, is of opinion that all measures for the promotion of this end should respect the liberty of each portion to purchase in the cheapest market wherever it may exist." The effect of this resolution, if carried, would be the preservation of the status quo, with all its disabilities to British trade, and its favoring of bounty-fed foreign competition, in its fullest vigor, despite the recent enunciations of the Cobden Club that an inter-Imperial preferential rate is not contrary to the principles of free trade. The subject is so vital—not only to our future trade prosperity, but to that of the Empire, for "as in the corporal body, when one member suffers all suffer with it"—that it calls for the most earnest consideration of all beforehand, in order that no snatched adverse victory may be secured, or the subject allowed to be strangled and buried beneath the forms of procedure, as so many other projects have previously been.

The Mercantile Gazette, of Brisbane, Queensland, says :

We are in receipt of the tariff edition of THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURER, dated July 6, 1900, which includes the tariffs of Canada, the United States, Great Britain, and Newfoundland. These tariffs are carefully indexed, and form a most ready and convenient reference. There can be no doubt of the immense advantage of this compilation to merchants exchanging products with either or all of the countries represented in the work. We compliment the enterprising proprietors of THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURER on the contribution of such a work to the literature of commerce. The index adds largely to the value of the production, and renders it the most complete tariff reference on record.

Under the editorial head "Canada's Pettifogging Bid For Trade" the British and South African Export Gazette, published in London, making reference to a matter which appeared in Industrial Canada, the official organ of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, says :—

The success of any new scheme largely depends upon its being well launched, and therefore we view with unmingled regret the acceptance by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association of Toronto of the programme of Mr. Thomas Moffat, the Canadian Government Agent at Capetown. Our objections are fully set out elsewhere in this issue, so that it is unnecessary to further refer to them except to remark that if Canadian manufacturers believe that South African trade is worth having, no portion of it is likely to fall to their share by adopting the pettifogging measures advocated by Mr. Moffat. As regards the wisdom of entrusting their business to commission houses, the cogency of our objections is reinforced by a quotation from a report dated January 7, 1899, by Mr. C. E. Macrum, the then United States Consul at Pretoria. Writing for the behoof of his countrymen, and answering the enquiry, Why does the foreign dealer give the preference to the European manufacturer? he says: "The English and German manufacturers canvass for trade through the medium of clever commercial travellers, who visit the dealer personally, and none of whom carry more than five or six different lines. Above all they are thoroughly acquainted with every line they carry. Contrast this with our American manufacturer. He makes a contract with an export commission house and sends the house a line of expensive samples, besides inserting a costly advertisement in the columns of a monthly or weekly journal. What is the result? The commission house has on hand from 75 to 150 different lines of goods, not five per cent. of which it knows anything about. Is it possible to handle needles, sideboards, traction engines, firearms, stores, tacks, railroad cars, hooks and eyes, bicycles, etc., and make a

commercial success of it? When I say a commercial success, I mean a commercial success to the manufacturer, not the commission house, which, it goes without saying, has a very comfortable profit out of the advertising alone. It seems to me a perfectly logical proposition that the sooner our American manufacturer goes directly after the foreign trade with the vim and energy he displays in seeking trade at home the faster will be his progress." The pertinence of this to our arguments and the Canadian case is obvious.

The "objections" which our London contemporary urges in the matter would cover more space than we can conveniently spare in this journal at this time, but they are certainly very interesting; and if either Mr. Moffat or the Association desire to discuss the matter we offer them sufficient space in THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURER to do so.

It has frequently been remarked that among the goods classed as "British exports" leaving the United Kingdom there is an appreciable percentage of foreign products, which pass through British ports in bond, or which are wrongly classified in the shipping returns which every exporter is supposed to fill up (accurately, of course) for the Board of Trade Returns. When an assorted case of lamps and lamp fittings, made partly here and partly on the Continent, leaves the Thames for the Colonies, it is, however, very difficult, if not impossible, to specify on the invoices the countries of origin of the various parts. This fact is, perhaps, not of much practical moment, but it may affect injuriously the two Colonies, Canada and Barbadoes, which have been struck off the list of countries enjoying most-favored-nation treatment by Germany. Mr. Ralph Williams, the Secretary for Barbadoes, complains of this in his latest report, and there is reason to believe that his complaint could to a large extent be remedied. "It would be advantageous," he says, "to us as well as other Colonies of British exporters were compelled to invoice their goods with their country of origin. We should then be able to collect a duty which is impossible now. Germany would not derive the advantage of the most-favored-nation treatment without giving us anything in return, and the British manufacturer and workmen would be protected from an unjust competition. The same remarks would, in a far lesser degree, apply to France, but in this respect the class of goods is more easily identified and traceable." The Customs officials of the Colony could, however, act much more effectively in obtaining such correct invoices than the Board of Trade authorities at home.—British Trade Journal.

The inauguration of the Australian Commonwealth is a civil, not a military, affair, and we see no reason why it should be accompanied by military displays of any kind. Our own Confederation was ushered in very quietly, and we do not think it has prospered any the less on that account. Of course it is Australia's own affair, but so far as Canada is concerned it seems to us that the sending of men that enormous distance would be a needless source of expense. We can assure Australia without any such action that she has the best wishes of this country for the success of the new commonwealth. Our militia is for work, not for show.—Toronto Globe.

The Globe should occasionally visit Ottawa on occasions when the Dominion Parliament is being prorogued. What fuss and feathers, what a glorious civic affair with military trimmings. So, too, with dispersion of our Ontario Legislature, supposed to be a civic affair also—it cannot be dispersed without the accompaniment of soldiers in uniform with rifles in their hand, and officers in bedazzling array of swords and gold lace.