

AMERICAN COTTONS.—ONE OF THE EFFECTS OF PROTECTION.—The New-York Evening Post says:—

"Housewives complain bitterly that American cotton fabrics are declining in quality. Formerly our sheetings and shirtings were remarkable for the very substantial manner in which they were made. The raw material was not spoiled; they were firm, strong and durable. Now it is complained that they are grown thin, flimsy and gauzy. The change has principally taken place since the passing of the tariff of 1842. Why it is we do not know whether it is because our manufacturers have a monopoly of the market, and are thus exempted from the necessity of giving us as good fabrics as heretofore, or whether they have merely learned an art after which they have been always striving, that of making the largest number of yards of cloth out of the smallest quantity of cotton. We have heard people experienced in such matters say, that if they want good cottons they must now buy the English fabrics. To obtain substantial American cottons again, we must repeal the tariff of 1842."

Of course, if the manufacturers have a monopoly of the market, they will endeavour to get as high a price as possible for as bad an article as possible. The only correction to these tricks of trade is competition—that is, Free Trade. The rule is then reversed: the manufacturer makes as good an article as he can at as low a price as he can, because he knows that the better he works and the cheaper he works, the more certainty he has of getting a sale. The Editor of the New-York paper is quite right when he says, that "to obtain substantial American cottons again, we must repeal the tariff of 1842."

The following is the copy of a letter addressed to the Secretary of the Board of Trade at Quebec, by the Civil Secretary, Mr. Higginson:—

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
MONTREAL, 26th May, 1846.

SIR,—I am directed by the Governor General to inform you that His Excellency has received a Despatch from the Secretary of State, acknowledging the receipt of the Address of the Quebec Board of Trade of March last, wherein the Board prays for the repeal of certain provisions of the Imperial enactments 5 and 6 Victoria, chapter 49, and 8 and 9 Victoria, chapter 33, the continuance of which, it is represented, will seriously affect the Trade of Canada, if the proposed alterations in the commercial policy of the United Kingdom should be sanctioned by Parliament, and instructing His Excellency to acquaint the Board of Trade, in answer, that the interests of Canada continue to engage the lively solicitude of Her Majesty's Government, but that they have felt it their duty to decline acceding to the request that the system denominated "naturalization" of goods may be introduced into the pending law, upon grounds which they conceive to be of such force as to leave them no option.

Her Majesty's Government are, however, by no means similarly pledged, or disposed to refuse consideration, to the question, how far the Imperial duties chargeable in Canada may be susceptible of alteration with advantage, though they entertain the opinion that it would be premature to enter upon the subject without further knowledge than they now possess of the sentiments of the various parties interested in it. With respect to the article of timber Mr Gladstone observes, that Parliament has already declared itself, on that question, in unison with the views of Her Majesty's Government; and adds, that Her Majesty's Government are firmly persuaded that British North American Timber, from its own useful properties, and with the aid of the reduced protection which it is proposed to return, as well as from the energy and intelligence of those who trade in it, and their command of capital, will continue to hold its place in the British market.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient humble servant,
J. M. HIGGINSON.

The Secretary of the Board of Trade, Quebec.

THE CORN BILL.—We believe that we may now rest satisfied that the bill will progress, as nearly as possible through its various stages in the following order—if, as we suppose, at the latest, it is sent up to the House of Lords on Monday, the 18th:—The first reading will be on Monday the 18th, the second reading will probably be on Thursday and Friday, the 21st and 22nd; it will go through the committee on Monday the 25th; the third reading will take place on Tuesday the 26th, or Thursday, the 29th; and the royal assent may be given on Monday, the 1st of June. And if, as we are still disposed to hope, the third reading may be concluded in the House of Commons on Tuesday next, and the bill carried up to the House of Lords on Thursday, then the various stages of the bill may be expected to be a few days earlier. At all events we have at this moment the fullest confidence that, in the first week of June, this measure which has so long kept the country in the utmost suspense, will have received her Majesty's most willing assent.—*Economist.*

AGENTS FOR THE "CANADIAN ECONOMIST"—Mr. Wm. Lane, Quebec; Mr. Stubbs, Three Rivers; Mr. James T. Westland, Toronto.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

PORT OF MONTREAL.

ARRIVED.

JUNE 6.

Brig *Crowley*, Campbell, Glasgow, A. Burns.

8TH.

Bark *Marquis of Normandy*, M^r Tibben, Glasgow, Ryan, Chapman & Co.

9TH.

Brig *Hotspur*, Purcell, Gloucester, J. Mesurier, Routh & Co.

10TH.

Ship *Cambria*, Kelso, Glasgow, J. R. Orr.

CLEARED.

JUNE 6.

Bark *Promise*, Pines, Liverpool.

Bark *Mrszy*, M^r Beth, do

Brig *Baron of Bramber*, Flynn, Liverpool.

Brig *Jane Stewart*, Laird, do.

9TH.

Brig *Amity*, Lemoine, Quebec.

Brig *Ariel*, Rutchie, Lirkaldy.

11TH.

Bark *Douglas*, Richards, London, Gillespie, Moffatt & Co.

Comparative Statement of Arrivals and Tonnage from Sea, at the Port of Quebec, to the 10th June, inclusive.

1845,	553 Vessels.	203,582 Tons.
1846,	473 " "	177,245 " "

80 26,337 less this year.

Comparative Statement of Arrivals and Tonnage from the Lower Ports, at the Port of Quebec, to the 10th June inclusive.

1845,	11 Vessels.	553 Tons.
1846,	18 " "	1287 " "

7 734 more this year.

Number of Emigrants arrived at the Port of Quebec since the opening of the navigation to this date inclusive.

From England,	62 Cabin.	2589 Steerage.
Ireland,	89 " "	9242 " "
Scotland,	68 " "	301 " "

To same period last year, 219 12,132
165 10,468

Increase in favour of 1846, 54 1,664

THE MARKETS.

ENGLISH.

The latest accounts from England are by the Steamer *Hibernia*, up to the 19th ult., which represent the leading Markets as still very depressed for Canadian products, particularly Bread stuffs, to which our attention is more immediately directed.

Flour—was quoted at 30s. to 31s. 6d., but there was no demand; and it was said that lower rates must have been submitted to if sales were forced.

WHEAT—was held at 7s. 9d. to 8s. 4d. for Red, and 8s. 6d. to 9s. for White, per 70 lbs.; but the transactions were of a mere retail character.

PEAS—were quoted at 42s. to 44s., with little doing.

ASHES—were in better demand, and a fair business was doing at 23s. per cwt. for Pots, and 21s. 6d. for Pearls. The Glasgow Market was represented about 6d. higher for Pots, and 1s. 6d. to 2s. higher for Pearls.—demand limited. In other respects the general features of the Market come within the above quotations.

(Written for the Economist.)

NEW YORK. 9th June, 1846.

Flour.—The dull state of the Market noticed in our last still continues, and the arrivals from the West and South having been heavy, prices have suffered a further decline. It is difficult to quote prices from actual transactions, as only sales of small quantities have been effected; but holders are asking for Genesee \$1 1/2 for Michigan \$1 06 1/2c. to \$1 1/4, and for Southern \$1 1/2 to \$1 1/4.

WHEAT.—There has been more demand for prime White for export, but prices are nevertheless rather lower, say \$1 to \$1 05c. Red Wheat is neglected, and there are no transactions to authorize quotations.

ASHES.—There has been a steady demand at our last quotations for both Pots and Pearls, and we continue our former quotations of \$3 50c. to \$3 56 1/2c., and \$1 to \$1 06 1/2c.

FREIGHTS—are firm at former rates, say 3s. per barrel for Flour to Liverpool, and 3s. 3d. to London or Glasgow.

EXCHANGE.—Very little was done in London per the *Great Britain*, and that at lower rates, say 7 1/2 to 8 1/2 per cent.

W. LEA ROBERTS, Broker, Wall Street.

MONTREAL. Friday Evening, 12th June.

The Produce Market during the week has been unusually dull.

Flour.—Good shipping brands commanded this day week, 21s. 6d. per barrel, but the prices since then have been receding, and the limited transactions that have occurred, have been chiefly at 23s. 9d. to 24s. 3d. for the best brands of Fine, and 23s. 6d. for second rate qualities. Spring Wheat Flour sells in retail for consumption, 21s. per barrel. There have been no transactions in Superfine worth taking notice of.

WHEAT—has sold steadily during the week at 5s. 3d. to 5s. 4 1/2. per 60 lbs. for White, and 4s. 10d. to 5s. for U. C. Red, though the latter quality has been stored in several instances, in preference to selling at 4s. 10d. per bushel.

ASHES—have been in moderate request at our quotations, viz.: 22s. 6d. to 23s. 9d. for Pots, and 21s. 6d. to 21s. 9d. for Pearls.

PROVISIONS.—Beef is nominal; but there is a fair retail enquiry for Pork, at the rates quoted.

FREIGHTS.—To London and Liverpool the engagements have been large, 1 5s. to 5s. 3d. for Flour, and 9s. for Wheat, the vessels on the berth being nearly all taken up. To the Clyde 4s. 9d. for Flour, and 9s. for Wheat has been paid, and 3d. more is now asked.

EXCHANGE.—Bank is still quoted at 11 per cent. Merchants' 90 day Bills sell at 9 1/2 to 9 3/4, but the demand is very languid.