

It might be advantageous to grow our own tea in the country, and thereby obviate the difficulties of sending for it altogether. But simply because it would be advantageous to do so, that would not lessen the folly or absurdity of attempting to force our own snow-clad hills into competition with the sunny slopes of Tokien or Quangtang. The attempt of Mr. Galt to destroy the natural current of trade in order to force Montreal into competition with the commercial mart of a great empire, by an unjust imposition on Upper Canada, is almost equally as absurd, while it is infinitely more reprehensible.

But that the object of the scheme is not to foster or encourage our inland navigation is only too apparent. Mr. Galt well knows that, irrespective of the closing of the St. Lawrence for six months in the year, New York is the legitimate port of entry. It is 1500 miles less distance than Montreal; return cargoes may be obtained from thence, but they cannot be obtained from Montreal; and even Mr. Galt himself, with the same breath in which he talks of encouraging our inland navigation, tells us that we of Toronto can follow the example of Montreal, and import *through New York* in bond. If this is to be the case, then, where is the boasted encouragement to our inland navigation? It vanishes at once. What then remains as the object of the scheme? Why simply and solely the forcing of the trade into the grasp, not of Montreal, but of a few leading importers of that city. No other object, or at all events, no other result can be made out. It may add a little to the traffic of the Grand Trunk Railroad; but if Upper Canada is to be taxed for the support of that undertaking, let it be a direct tax that we can all understand, and not combined with a policy that at the same time robs her of the means of paying it by destroying her trade. The gross injustice and inconsistency of such a policy is too glaring to admit of serious discussion; and we shall be much surprised if Upper Canada stand tamely by and suffer it to pass into law.

It must be a source of deep regret that such an unfortunate measure should have been introduced. There are not wanting subjects already of sectional difference; and this, if carried into effect, must inevitably add another link to the ugly chain that already exists. That a strong feeling is already excited in Upper Canada on the subject, and that it will be ten fold increased, should the proposed