

lations of society in a somewhat loose, shifting and migratory state. It may be that the declining vigour of the Churches and the loosening of the religious tie have something to do with the increased longing for fraternity of another kind. Perhaps the best thing to be said for these brotherhoods, including Masonry, is that they traverse the boundary lines of class and thus, so far as their influence extends, prevent the community from being divided into the hostile armies which, by their antagonism, are threatening Europe with social war.

—In the Budget Speeches of great financiers like Sir Robert Peel, you distinctly see the broad basis of a fiscal policy. The speaker tells you, or allows you clearly to perceive, his view of the great interests of the country, of the relations between them, and of the manner in which collectively and severally they are to be promoted. We miss this in the Budget Speeches of Sir Leonard Tilley. What does he conceive to be the natural industries of the Dominion? How does he propose to benefit them by his system? Does he aim at turning Canada from an agricultural and lumbering into a manufacturing country? If he does, what is the object of such a policy, and how is it to bring additional wealth to Provinces with a fertile soil but without coal? One thing is clear; Sir Leonard has now stepped beyond the line of National Policy, and fairly committed himself to Protection. In the present state of the world, absolute free trade is impossible; revenue must be raised by import duties and each nation must have its tariff: the adjustment of the tariff, as far as possible, to the special circumstances of the nation is national policy, and the policy of common sense. But those who took it upon them to defend the tariff of 1878 before the incensed Free Traders of England, as a legitimate embodiment of the national principle, must hold different language now. Our Finance Minister has steered straight into Protectionism, and is about to add to the number of the wrecks which warn the economical navigator away from that ill-omened shore. His proposed duty on agricultural implements, and his bonus on the manufacture of pig iron are distinct instances