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THE MORNING GUARDIAN

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 1903.

CANADA AND GERMANY.

In round figures Canada has bought of Germany yearly some ten millions worth of her merchandise, while selling to Germany two millions worth of Canadian products. In other words we have been buying from Germany about five times as much as we have sold to that country. This proportion of our import and export trade with Germany has a very important bearing upon the commercial war we have entered upon. Germany began it; Canada has retorted with the surtax, and there is little doubt that Germany will come back at us again. But we shall still have the whiphand in the fight because the Canadian market is worth much more to Germany than is the German market to Canada.

The dutiable goods imported to Canada from Germany last year amounted to \$9,078,402. The average rate of duty on these imports was 70 per cent. With the surtax added the duty will be 40 per cent. Under the preferential tariff the rate on British goods averages about 20 per cent, so hereafter German goods must pay just about twice as much duty in proportion to value as British goods. The classes of dry goods and their values imported from Germany last year were as follows: Woolens, \$884,016; silks, \$383,126; gloves and mitts, \$165,848; furs, \$839,019; linen, \$41,360; fancy articles, \$392,363; cottons, \$243,819; total, \$449,851.

LIGHTNING REMEDY FOR CRAMPS.

Some people have cramps pretty often, others only now and again. But when you do have them it is a mighty quick relief you want. Polson's Nerviline is as sure as death to relieve cramps in five seconds—it's instantaneous, just a few drops in sweetened water and the pain is gone. Buy a bottle of Nerviline to-day, and keep it handy. Nerviline is a common household necessity and only costs 25 cents.

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CONSTIPATION.

Iron and steel amounts to \$1,250,000; sugar and molasses, 3,500,000. On these latter articles German bounties have been severely felt, and the increased tax will be an important factor in the calculations of Canadian manufacturers and those who have engaged in beet-root sugar enterprises.

Germany had been doing very well in her trade with Canada for years past. At any time within the past eight years she has sold us from three to five times as much as we have sold her. One would have thought she might have been content under these circumstances to let well enough alone. But it is Germany that has disturbed the existing relations. The controversy is not of our seeking. Nor can Germany inflict any very serious injury upon Canada even should she entirely prohibit the entrance of Canadian goods to the German Empire. With an export trade of over 200 millions Canada can afford to treat lightly the two millions of our exports to Germany. It is a matter of only one per cent of our exports, and for that matter this one per cent can be disposed of to probably equally good advantage in other quarters of the world.

THE OPPOSITION LEADERSHIP.

The Examiner, not without some share of inspiration we presume, calls attention to the fact that Hon. Mr. Gordon resigned his position as leader at the Conservative Convention in January last and that "at his age it is not fair to keep him in harness when he is anxious to be free. Delays are always dangerous," adds The Examiner. "Let his successor be appointed at once." There is a note of urgency in these words which must attract attention. Mr. Gordon is indeed "an old and honored veteran," but it is to be observed that like Moses, after a life extending over more than four score years "his eye is not dim nor his natural force abated." Many men twenty years his junior feel the weight of their years, while Mr. Gordon at the recent late night sittings has turned up in his place fresh as a youth of twenty.

It was in 1867, the books tell us, that Mr. Gordon was first returned as a member of the Legislature. That was thirty-six years ago. Since that time with a brief interval, 1873-6, he has been continuously re-elected. His constituents have stood by him as he has stood by them with unwavering fidelity, and the connection has been honorable to both. Mr. Gordon has been one of the better class of our public men. In his long and faithful public course he has acquitted himself with a modest dignity, a moderation and good judgment which have won him the regard of both political parties. His addresses from time to time have given evidence of a well-stored mind, and a familiarity with the world's best literature which is all too rare among our public men. His retirement from the Legislature from whatever cause would be a distinct public loss.

But we did not set out to write an eulogy of the Opposition leader. It appears that he desires to lay aside the burden of leadership, and naturally, his followers, with unabated confidence in him, must meet the emergency as they can. The choice to be made will be a matter of public interest. It ought not to be difficult. The debates of the current session have confirmed some previous impressions as to the ability, the versatility, the abundant good nature, the knowledge of public affairs and the energetic and aggressive qualities of one or more of the younger members of the party in the House. And we cannot wish for the new leader of Island Conservatism when he shall be chosen, a more sustained confidence on the part of his followers than has fallen to the lot of Hon. Daniel Gordon, nor a better fortune than that he may grow old as gracefully, and find when age shall come, that it shall be to him as to Mr. Gordon, "like a lusty winter, frosty but kindly."

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