

Development of the Commercial Union Theory.

(Monetary Times—Independent.)

Commercial Union, under the light of discussion, does not improve in aspect, as seen by the thoughtful Canadian. On the contrary, as discussion goes on, new features of an objectionable character are brought out. At the Detroit meeting, last Saturday, Mr. Wiman advanced one or two steps in the development of the theory, of which he is a foremost champion. Heretofore little notice had been taken of objections to the scheme; but it was felt that these objections were beginning to tell, and that some attempt to answer them must be made. Mr. Wiman glanced at the objection to Canada discriminating in favor of the United States, a foreign country, and against Great Britain, on whom we depend for protection in the hour of peril. "It must be admitted," he observed, "that, stated in its baldest form, the proposition to discriminate between Great Britain and in favor of the United States, by a British colony, seems difficult to reconcile with the notions that prevail in the United States, as to the relations between Great Britain and her colonies." It is of no practical importance what notions prevail in the United States, on the subject; the question is what will be thought of this scheme of Commercial Union in Canada and the mother country. Mr. Wiman answers that Canada is for commercial union, two to one. But there is nothing to bear out this assertion, except the voice of half a dozen public meetings, at which no opposition was offered. The other side has not been heard; it has remained quiescent, in consciousness of its strength, or has only answered, as the Toronto Board of Trade did, when challenged to state its opinion. The advocates of commercial union are relying solely upon an appeal to the pocket, an appeal which is not often made in vain. It was made successfully by the advocates of the National Policy. But there is this distinction: the advocates of the two cases, and it is a very wide one; the advocates of the National Policy had the National sentiment in their favor, while the advocates of commercial union have the national sentiment against them. The strength of the national sentiment has been underrated; this underrated sentiment will venture to predict, be found stronger than any appeal to the pocket; especially as commercial union would bring evil as well as good, evil in many forms, which, in the opinion of not a few, would outweigh the good.

The substance of Mr. Wiman's reply to the objection to discrimination is that Canada can do as she likes, commercially, and need not fear to encounter the imperial veto, if she should declare for Commercial Union. Canada taxes British goods as heavily as she taxes foreign; and Mr. Wiman sees in this practice a reason for taxing British goods more than foreign (American) goods. But it may be replied that equality is one thing, hostile discrimination against the trade of the mother country is another. Equality we have; in discrimination we have been forbidden to indulge. This has been a standing rule by which the relations between mother country and the colonies have been regulated. Perhaps under pressure, Great Britain might agree to let Canada discriminate against British trade; but she would not do so without exacting some sort of reciprocity. It is utterly unreasonable to expect that she would continue to bind herself to protect a colony which should discriminate against her trade, and in favor of that of a foreign state, and in spite of Mr. Wiman's opinion to the contrary, we feel certain that Canada has not the remotest notion of making any such discrimination.

It is true that we have enacted a high tariff; and that this has been done, as Mr. Wiman observes, by "the Conservative or Tory party, who have been loud in their declarations of attachment to British connection and their love for British institutions." All this is true; but we cannot see in the fact, as Mr. Wiman does, a warrant for "going a step further and adding, say ten per cent., to the existing tariff, and thus equalize it to the American standard." Nor can we agree with the expectation that the "few touches" required to produce this uniformity "are certain to come in time, making the whole list of customs duties uniform with those of the United States." This declaration is a curious illustration of the sort of free trade which commercial unionists promise us. They tell us a great deal about the benefit of trading with sixty millions of people; but the poetry is taken out of the promise when it is added that we must trade on conditions imposed by our new customers, that is under the American tariff. What does this mean? Mr. Wiman says it merely means an innocent ten per cent. addition to our tariff. But it means a great deal more. It means that we are to be compelled to buy the dear and inferior goods of the United States, and are to be forbidden to buy the cheap and superior goods of Great Britain. The loss in this exchange would be enormous.

If Canada agreed to accept the American tariff, she would surrender a vital part of her autonomy, and deprive herself of the power of adjusting her revenue to her necessities. The commercial independence which she now enjoys, and which it cost a long struggle to secure, would be surrendered without hope of recovery. Against such a retrogression all the active forces of the country are at war. No one in Canada seriously intends to surrender the power of making her own tariff. That power we may use wisely or unwisely; it has no doubt been abused; but to surrender it would be to put the correction of mistakes out of our power. We should then have to yield up our fortunes to the abusive use of the tariff-making powers of a foreign country. And that the Americans are abusing that power more than we are does not admit of question. Mr. Wiman has repeatedly stated that the United States would readily agree to commercial union with Canada, but he has apparently become convinced, somewhat recently, that she would not agree to surrender one jot of tariff-making power, but that, if we are to go into commercial union at all, we must adopt the American tariff bodily. This will settle the matter in the minds of every one who values the right of deciding on the conditions on which the trade and finance of the country shall be conducted. Canada could not accept terms so disadvantageous to her.

The Fishery Commission.

MR. BAYARD'S VIEW OF THE MATTER.

The New York Times Washington despatch says: Secretary Bayard spoke freely a few days ago, in regard to the new phase assumed by the Canadian fisheries question. He regarded it as a most hopeful indication of a speedy, just and honorable adjustment of these long pending difficulties that the British government had itself taken steps to put an end to the triangular manner in which the negotiations were hitherto carried on, which had been a source of perpetual embarrassment. Every proposition submitted by the United States had to be submitted to Canada for the views of the Dominion Government, and after months of delay it would be returned with the Canadian objections, and the whole routine would have to be gone over again. Secretary Bayard especially referred to the proposition made by him to Lord Idlesleigh, British secretary for foreign affairs, which remained unanswered for months after Idlesleigh's death, and was finally returned to the United States by Lord Salisbury with the Canadian objections. There seems to be a strong probability, though this was in no way intimated by Secretary Bayard, that the proposition to Lord Idlesleigh will really form the basis of the forthcoming negotiations. Secretary Bayard went on to say that all the combats and delays which had hampered negotiations in times past would be obviated by the appointment of the Royal Commission, clothed with full authority to speak both for Great Britain and the Dominion. It was not correct, as stated in despatches from London, that the American commissioners had already been selected. In the absence of direct authority from Congress, there could be no United States commissioners appointed with full power, such as those possessed by the commissioners commissioned by the British Crown. All the American representatives could do would be to agree upon an amendment or an interpretation of the treaty of 1818, which would have to be laid before the United States for its action before it could take effect. In point of fact, United States commissioners were not absolutely necessary. The Secretary of State himself as sole representative of the United States could negotiate a treaty, subject, of course, to ratification by the President and Senate, but if Great Britain wished the negotiations to be conducted by three representatives on each side, that desire might very properly be complied with by the President. Secretary Bayard intimated that in his judgment this would probably be the best course, and subsequent conversations left the impression that the President in all probability would designate two other able international jurists to co-operate with the Secretary of State in the negotiations. The secretary said it was true that the British commissioners would come to Washington and that the negotiations would be conducted here just as soon as the weather was suitable.

Secretary Bayard said that there was nothing to add to what had already been published concerning the latest phase of the fisheries trouble. He had great reason to hope that a fair and final settlement would be reached of the differences which had always existed between this country and Great Britain over the fisheries since 1818, and a final settlement of which differences had never been reached as yet. He desired to correct the statement that Canada objected to a proposition on the part of Great Britain to treat regarding the differences. The Canadian Government was very desirous that an amicable settlement should be reached, and had expressed a wish that the differences between the two countries regarding the fisheries should be finally laid at rest, and on the part of the United States he had met that desire with great pleasure and good will.

Canada's Commissioner.

The Montreal Gazette says:—"If, as we infer, the Fishery Commission will be charged simply with the duty of marking out the three-mile limit, settling the headlands question, and defining the rights of the respective countries under the treaty of 1818, the commissioners ought to be men possessed of legal rather than commercial knowledge. Canada will, of course, be represented on the commission, and it is probable that Sir John Macdonald will be requested to act. Should the Premier be unable to accept, the choice would naturally fall upon the Minister of Justice, Hon. Mr. Thompson, and a better representative of Canada's interests could not possibly be selected. Mr. Thompson is familiar with the questions involved in the controversy; his despatches on the subject during the last two years are models of conciseness and logic, of clearness of statement, and attest his great knowledge of international law, the history of negotiations from time to time on this question, and the interpretation of treaties. He has a quick grasp of intricate subjects, keen perception of the strong and weak points of a case, skill in the presentation of an argument, is a close student and would be armed at every point to defend Canadian interests. The announcement that he has been chosen as Canada's commissioner would, we are sure, be received with general satisfaction, especially if the duty of the commission is to relate exclusively to the interpretation of the treaty of 1818 and the respective rights of the two countries under that convention."

The Canada Life.

The report of the fortieth year's business of the Canada Life Assurance company, submitted at the annual meeting of the shareholders on Tuesday, was of the same remarkably satisfactory character as has been the feature of these statements during that long period. The success of the company has been really marvellous, and as a Canadian institution that success is particularly gratifying, the Canada Life having by far a larger business in this country than any other operating in the Dominion. In the year covered by the report 2,177 new assurances for \$4,523,083 were issued, bringing the total assurances in force on April 30th last, up to 21,060 for \$42,546,651. The income of the year reached the large sum of \$1,638,507, and after the payment of all claims upon the company including \$642,015 in cash to policy-holders, the considerable amount of \$793,687 was added to the assets, bringing these up to \$8,190,465. In view of these results, the congratulatory tone of the speeches the occasion elicited was fully justified, and the expectation of uninterrupted prosperity in the future warranted. A new and important concession to policy-holders is announced, and for the future all ordinary policies, after being in force for two years without infringement of their conditions, and age proved, are to be absolutely free and untrammelled, subject only to the due payment of their respective premiums. The success of the Canada Life has been due mainly to the excellence of its management, and the public confidence thus inspired, a confidence that steadily increases from year to year, as the operations of the company testify.—Montreal Gazette.

MONTREAL'S tax collections last month amounted to over twelve thousand dollars.

Canadian News.

The Moncton refinery is importing quite a stock of raw sugar via St. John.

There are now in Quebec harbor three English and two French men of war.

Sir Lionel West has been appointed second British Commissioner to settle the fishery difficulty.

Judge Palmer of St. John admits his liability for 430 shares of \$100 each in the failed Maritime Bank.

The Dominion cruiser Intrepid has captured within the three-mile limit off Campbell's.

The Kenville, N. S. Chronicle says Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor, of South Berwick, celebrated her 107th birthday on the 1st inst.

Hon. Speaker Ouimet says he has issued his writ for the elections in Dorchester and Yarmouth counties. The dates have not yet been fixed.

In five days from Aug. 27th to Sept. 2nd, 1592 sheep and lambs, valued at about \$3000, were carried by the Island steamers from Summerside to Point du Chene.

Half a dozen Americans, camped at Home Island, had their boats seized and deposits of \$35 had to be made to recover them; for bringing a keg of beer from the American side without reporting it.

Rev. Mr. Carson, Methodist, preaching last Sunday night on the subject of Ottawa's immorality, said it was 30 per cent. higher than any other city in Ontario and 20 per cent. higher than London, Eng.

A semi-panic was caused among the passengers of the steamer Spartan in Montreal on Saturday by a fire breaking out when in Lake St. Francis. The flames, however, were quickly subdued without much damage.

A new discovery of gold has been made at Harrigan Point, Isaac's Harbor, N. S., on property owned by Bradley and Dismond. This lead is from 22 to 24 inches broad, and has turned out from 1 1/2 to 2 ozs., per tonso far.

A number of cotton operatives from Lancashire arrived last week in St. John, and are now at work in Parks' cotton factories. Several of them bring families. There are a number of other operatives and their families on the way.

Rain on Saturday last checked the bush fires in Loughborough township, Frontenac Co., Ont., which have been raging for several days on the North side of Loughborough Lake. The flames swept over a tract of land one mile wide, destroying everything in their course.

The Government observatory at Winnipeg gives the rain fall for the five months ending with August, 1887, at 10.60 inches, against 6.24 in 1885 and 16.62 in 1886, showing that the drought so universal throughout the Western States this season did not extend to Manitoba.

A Washington despatch reports:—"The Department of State is informed by the United States Consul at Victoria, B. C., that Mr. Drake, of the firm of Drake, Jackson & Helmenham, barristers, left there last week for Alaska, by direction of Hon. Mr. White, minister of the interior for the Dominion. The firm referred to are the solicitors for the Dominion Government in that province. It is presumed that Mr. Drake's mission is directly connected with the seizure of the British sealing vessels in Alaskan waters."

The Statistical Abstract and Record for 1886, issued by the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa, contains a large mass of information, the nature of which it is difficult to specify save at great length, but it may be said to contain all that is ordinarily required by searchers of statistics, bearing on the trade and population of the Dominion. The book is improved by a copious index, making it easy to find any desired subject, and throughout reflects credit on the Minister who suggested and statisticians who compiled it.

American News.

All the prisoners in the jail at Eminence, Kentucky, escaped on Saturday.

The receipts for admission to the Eastern Maine State Fair, at Bangor, footed up about \$13,000. Probably \$50,000 was spent in the city in consequence of the fair.

An epidemic of black diphtheria is raging at Lockport, Penn. Nearly half of the population are reported down with the disease and a large number of deaths have already occurred.

Chippendale Brothers, of Lewiston, Me., have invented a machine to dig potatoes. The contrivance is hauled by a horse, digs the potatoes, removes the dirt from them and drops them into bags.

A man escaped from a Rhode Island jail by making a rope of newspapers twisted together. Newspapers have got many a scoundrel into jail, but they are not often used to get scoundrels out.

The estimated valuation of property in Maine, according to the census of 1880, was \$501,000,000, or \$772 per head. In 1870 the value per head was \$555; in 1860 but \$303, and in 1850 but \$210.

Howard Williamson, of Mount Sterling, Ky., had a bad left leg. It began to ossify last winter, and is now as hard as a stone and looks as if cut from marble. There has been no pain attending the ossification.

The last census figures show that the wealth per head in Massachusetts increased from \$577 to \$1,568; in Connecticut from \$420 to \$1,368; in New Hampshire from \$326 to \$945; in Rhode Island from \$546 to \$1,519 and in Vermont from \$294 to \$870.

Camden, New Jersey, is the Gretna Green of Pennsylvania, and the Rev. John T. Dobbins is the clergyman with the largest patronage. For two years Dr. Dobbins has averaged over 175 weddings a month, and his fees since January, 1886, have amounted to \$25,000; so it is said.

There was great excitement in Grenville, Ohio, on Monday morning, when the doors of the county treasury room vault were found open and \$48,000 missing. Treasurer Jno. S. Simon was also missing. Afterwards Simon returned, and claimed that the money had been taken by robbers. His property has been attached.

APPLICATIONS for admission to the National Conservatory of America (128 E. 17th St., N. Y.) will be received up to noon of Sept. 10th. After that date no further applications can be entertained before January 1st. The session extends to 1st of June. Tuition free, on certain conditions. aug13

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Corroborative Reports.

SIR,—It may be of some interest to your readers to learn in connection with what Mr. Davies said, or did not say, at the Cape Traverse picnic, that some of Mr. Davies' own friends here who were present, and, as they state, heard distinctly what was said on that occasion, on their return to Summerside, gave very nearly the same words in that speech that The EXAMINER gave, and this, too, before any printed report appeared in the papers.

It is true, in giving Mr. Davies strong points against the Government, they make the language stronger. For instance, speaking of what Mr. Davies claimed to have said in Parliament to the Minister of Railways, Mr. Davies is accredited with saying, "Pope, you stole this money, and used it for base and dishonest purposes," at the same time turning squarely on Pope and pointing him out with outstretched arm and withering scorn. Also, it is claimed for Mr. Davies that, having occasion to speak of Sir John, alluded to that venerable statesman as "that hoary-headed old sinner."

Yours, SUMMERSIDE.

Sept. 6, 1887.

DIED.

At Georgetown, on the 27th ult., of Cholera Infantum, Colvrey Milford, infant son of Thomas and Katie M. Henry, aged eleven months and sixteen days.

When we see a precious blossom, That we tended with such care, Rudely taken from our bosom, How our aching hearts despair.

Round its little grave we linger Till the setting sun is low, Feeling all our hopes have perished With the flower we cherished so.

Ch'town, Sept. 6, 1887—eod wky

FROM LIVERPOOL.

FALL, 1887.

THE BRIGANTINE

"EDITH,"

D. A. McKRAE, Master.

Will be on the berth at Liverpool about the 25th SEPTEMBER, sailing

For Charlottetown Direct! ABOUT THE 5th OCTOBER NEXT.

For Freight apply in Liverpool to PITCAIRN BROTHERS, 51 South John Street, or here to the owners

WM. WELSH.

Ch'town, Sept. 7, 1887—eod wky

River Excursion and Kermis.

Steamer "Southport" will leave Ferry Wharf

On THURSDAY, 8th Inst., AT 3 P. M., SHARP.

Go up the West River, returning at 5.30 p. m. St. Peter's Boys' Band will be in attendance.

Refreshments, Flowers, &c. may be obtained on-board.

Fare, 20cts; Children Half Price.

Tickets may be obtained at Watson's or Rankin's Drug Store, or on board.

Sept. 6-21

Furniture, Piano, Carpets

I AM instructed by WILLIAM WELSH, ESQ., M. P., to sell by Auction at his residence, Euston Street,

Thursday, September 8th, AT TWO O'CLOCK,

All his Household Furniture, comprising Parlor, Dining-Room and Bed-Rooms Sets, Carpets, Rugs, etc., etc. Also, 1 Piano (very fine).

G. M. HARRIS, Auctioneer.

eod tl sale—pat

ST. JOSEPH'S BAZAAR.

(UNDER DISTINGUISHED PATRONAGE.)

THE Ladies of St. Joseph's Society intend holding another

Grand Bazaar!

this year, in aid of St. Joseph's School, in the Convent Building, Pownal St.

—DURING—

Exhibition Week, October 3rd-8th.

No pains will be spared to make this Bazaar excel all previous ones.

Musical and Amusements provided.

Admission 10 cents.

Ch'town, Sept. 1, 1887.

COAL! COAL!

JUST arrived, per Sehr. "Robbie Godfrey."

300 TONS ANTHRACITE COAL, (JERMYN MINES.)

This Coal is the best that has been in the market for some time.

A guarantee has been given that it is free from Clinker and Slate. There being no waste, all burns up.

Orders left at office will be promptly filled.

CAPT. JOHN HUGHES, Water Street.

August 31, 1887—1wk pat

Schooner, Seine & Seine Boat

AT AUCTION.

I WILL Sell by Auction, on WEDNESDAY, the 11th inst., at Alberton Wharf, the schooner Margaret Jane, 42 tons register, Seine and Seine Boat; also a lot of Salt and Barrels.

JOHN AGNEW.

Alberton, Sept. 2, 1887.

ST. CATHERINE'S HALL, AUGUSTA, ME.

Diocesan School for Girls.

The Rt. Rev. H. A. Neeley, D.D., President. The Rev. W. D. Martin, A. M., Principal. 20th year opens Sept. 14. Terms \$275 and \$250. Strong corps of teachers. Special advantages in Art and Music. Sent for circular. July 26—10 wks

Pickling Vinegar and Spices.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

English Malt Vinegar.—This is without doubt the Best Pickling Vinegar in the Market to-day, and as we import it direct from London, England, we are prepared to give the best value for your money.

White Wine Vinegar.—We have lately received a large supply of this article from one of the best Vinegar Factories in the Dominion, and we guarantee it to be strictly pure and unadulterated.

Cider Vinegar.—A stock of this nice Table Vinegar always kept on hand.

Pickling Spices.—We have just received a large quantity of Choice Mixed Pickling Spice, which we can recommend as a first-class article. It contains sixteen different kinds of highly aromatic seeds, and is mixed by an adept in the business.

BEER & GOFF,

QUEEN SQUARE AND KING SQUARE STORES.

Ch'town, Sept. 6, 1887—eod wky

Flannels, Tweeds & Worsteds

12,000 Yards

EXTRA VALUE,

Selling Cheap for Cash

AT THE

LONDON HOUSE.

8,000 Yards Flannel—Scarlet,

Gray, White and Navy.

HARRIS & STEWART.

SUCCESSORS TO

GEO. DAVIES & Co.

Ch'town, Sept. 1—wky

Great Cash Sale.

150 PIECES FLANNEL.

OUR Third Annual Cheap Flannel Sale commences THURSDAY MORNING, Sept. 1st, when we purpose showing the public thousands of yards of Red, White and Gray Flannels.

This whole lot was bought very cheap, and we intend to give Great Bargains for Cash.

It will be a grand chance to secure your winter flannels at extremely low prices.

Cheap Red Flannels,

Cheap White Flannels,

Cheap Gray Flannels.

JAMES PATON & CO.,

MARKET SQUARE.

Ch'town, August 31, 1887.—dy & wky

PREPARING

—FOR THE—

Fall Trade.

J. B. MACDONALD

is Selling Off at Extraordinary Low Prices all

kinds of Dry Goods and Ready-made Clothing,

to make room for Fall Stock.

Please Call.

J. B. MACDONALD.

Ch'town, August 25, 87—dy wy—pat