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JOHN JOY.
oct20—if

Canadian Farmers and Unrestricted Reciprocity.

(The Empire.)

Free trade with the United States means the free competition of cheaper farm products from the other side with those grown or raised by the Canadian farmer. The market of "sixty millions" is already overstocked with all the various productions which our agriculturists desire to export. Almost without exception the market for both countries is Great Britain, and should the dyke be taken down which now guards our farmer from American competition the injurious effect would be instantaneous and permanent. The following table of imports from the United States under protection and the amounts of similar products which the Republic exports abroad will be of interest:

1890.	Can. Imp.	U. S. Imp.
Cattle	\$ 52,675	\$31,261,251
Pork	844,816	3,768,804
Bacon and hams	323,513	47,066,760
Beef	258,473	18,121,675
Butter	61,027	4,187,480
Cheese	16,201	8,591,042
Wheat	149,994	45,275,906
Oats	97,879	4,510,055
Apples	250,000	2,269,000

But it is not only in bulk that the competition would be fierce and the effect injurious, but in the price of many of the products. It is well known that wheat in Chicago than in Toronto; that cattle bring far less in American west than here; and are of inferior breed to the Canadian product; that hogs are very much cheaper in the States than in Canada; and that under Unrestricted Reciprocity the great pork trade of the Dominion would be almost immediately destroyed. During the last election this fact appeared so evident that the pork producers and buyers throughout Canada were up in arms at the threatened destruction of a trade which was then valued at \$9,000,000. The following quotation of prices over a term of years is taken from the commercial columns of the Globe on the first Thursday in February of each year:

	Chicago.	Toronto.
1881	\$5 29	\$5 50
1882	6 59	6 25
1883	6 25	4 50
1884	4 70	5 00
1889	3 80	4 25
1891	3 60	5 03

The immense drop in Chicago prices was, of course, due to the same intense Western competition which has already created thousands of abandoned farms in New England and has driven the Eastern farmer to mortgages and debt in order to obtain a living or to retain his property.

The position of the Canadian farmer is good. We maintain that he is not dependent upon the United States, that he is better off than the average American cultivator of the soil, that his best outside market is Great Britain, which free trade with the States would seriously affect by a restriction of imports and a consequent reduction of exports, that such a policy would send our products over American instead of Canadian railways and make our farmers bond slaves of the American trusts and combines. Can such an indictment against Canada be brought by the most bigoted Grit or unprincipled annexationist as that laid to the discredit of the United States by one of the best and brightest of its papers—the New York Times—

"The farms in our State are mortgaged for over \$700,000,000. The farmers of the United States are staggering under a burden of mortgage indebtedness approximating nine thousand millions of dollars. The greater portion of the money represented by the faces of these mortgages has not been expended in improving the farms, because the larger proportion were supplied with buildings before the mortgages were laid. This money has been spent to enable the farmers to live."

Compare such a condition of affairs with the \$80,000,000 worth of farm mortgages in the Dominion, and with the indications of prosperity given in the following table from the latest Ontario Bureau of Industry report:—

	1892.	1889
Farm lands	\$632,242,500	\$632,329,433
Buildings	132,711,575	192,414,237
Implement	37,029,815	51,635,766
Live stock	80,540,720	105,731,288
Total	\$882,524,610	\$982,210,664

An increase in wealth to the farmers of Ontario in ten years of \$100,000,000. Surely the contrast is sufficient. And, with all this prosperity, we have encountered successfully the natural drain of population, money and energy to our great West. But it is also said that Unrestricted Reciprocity would give our farmers a better market. It would certainly and inevitably destroy the home market which they now possess, though perhaps the Republic would kindly give us permission to compete in a "sixty million market," which now sends away \$400,000,000 of agricultural products every year. Why the very statement is absurd on its face. The records show that while the export of the produce from our farms to the United States in 1870 (under a revenue tariff) was \$14,927,313, it had actually decreased during the succeeding twenty years until in 1890 it amounted to \$13,485,727. On the other hand, during that period similar exports to Great Britain had risen from \$9,723,579 to \$22,240,548. Look at the following table of exports in animals and their product:

	To Great Britain	To United States
1870	\$ 4,345,959	\$7,336,083
1874	5,539,764	5,946,366
1878	9,694,279	4,483,106
1882	13,365,399	6,592,068
1886	14,814,672	6,742,789
1890	16,277,660	7,137,066
1891	18,578,722	5,936,474

Such figures speak louder than volumes.

We have given already some space in this

consideration of our farmers' position to the relative condition of prices in live hogs, and we may very profitably conclude with a glance at our cattle trade. It will be remembered that Great Britain grants us a distinct discrimination in favor of our cattle over American by giving us permission to land them alive as being free from suspicion of disease. Under free trade with the States our exports would be merged in one common mass, and we would, of course, lose a privilege which has largely increased the value of our cattle export from \$951,269 in 1874 to \$6,949,417 in 1890. Then glance at what protection has done for the farmer in one other direction. We have pointed out the possibilities of competition were Unrestricted Reciprocity really established, now look at the following table of what the N. P. has enabled the farmer to grow at home in place of seeing it purchased in the States:

IMPORTS FOR HOME CONSUMPTION.

	1878.	1890.
Barley	Bush 302,47	12,550
Oats	2,162,292	352,783
Rye	146,823	526
Wheat	5,635,111	188,934
Peas	9,589	5,910
Corn	7,387,507	3,242,391

A saving in short, of nearly 12,000,000 bushels of grain annually, which is now produced by our own farmers, in addition to the increased amount also necessary for our increased population.

With all these facts and figures, and myriads more which might be adduced, the Canadian farmer is thoroughly justified in refusing to accept this proposed policy of unrestricted competition and unlimited direct taxation.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Parish of Crapaud.

SIR,—I notice in your issue of THE WEEKLY EXAMINER of the 18th ult. an account of a meeting of the Clerical Association of P. E. Island, held at Kensington on the 8th December, 1891, in which the following curious paragraph occurs:

"A matter of difficulty in the parish of Crapaud was discussed to the satisfaction of the clergy present."

Please allow me to say that we have no knowledge of said Association's exercising any judicial functions over us. That we have no difficulty in this parish which the Church in Crapaud is not quite competent to arrange; and further, that the intelligence of the parishioners is so high, their loyalty to the doctrines of the Church of England as set forth in the Book of Common Prayer, so strong, and their sense of British fair play so unprejudiced, that no matter pertaining either to her sacraments, doctrines, discipline, or relations existing between rector and parish, has ever been carried beyond her precincts for adjudication.

JOHN MOORE,
Vestry Clerk, St. John's Church,
Crapaud, Jan 4, 1892.

Souris News.

A lodge of the Sons of Temperance has been recently organized, and is now in working order, meeting every Wednesday night. A slight departure from the old plan has been adopted in this branch, inasmuch as ladies are allowed to wear the badge and occupy equal rights with the sterner sex. The officers are,—

W. P.—Rev John Goldsmith.
W. P.—Elijah Leard.
W. A.—Mrs Elizabeth Matthews.
Chap.—Rev J. G. Cameron.
A. R.—Gusie Muttart.
R. S.—Stanley Aitken.
A. C.—Carrie Dingwell.
C.—Joseph Mitchell.
I. S.—Patrick Gantwell.
T.—John Morrow.
F. S.—William Mellett.
O. S.—H. B. Ehaut.

The New Year passed off quietly. Religious services were held in the forenoon in the Catholic and the Presbyterian Church. Two schoolers, the St. Thomas, Capt. Edmund Croverie, and the Sisters and Brothers, John Cayon, loaded with oats by Matthew, McLean & Co., set sail about noon for Pictou. The young horrors turned out in the afternoon dressed for the most part in the toggery of wild Indians, and marched through the village accompanied by the local brass band. The whole arrangement was well carried out, causing quite a sensation, especially among the juvenile portion of the community.

Recent heavy southerly gales have injured the breakwater some. Part of the slope is damaged, and the ballast of one or two sections has been washed out in consequence. It is feared that unless repaired soon further and more serious damage will occur.

The Colville School has been closed for another week owing to the prevalence of contagious disease in the district. Mr. Ducheman, now a Dalhousie collegian, is paying a brief visit to his former pupils. As he was one of the most painstaking and popular teachers who ever had charge of the school, it is hardly necessary to say that every one is delighted to see him once again.

The new mail carrier between Souris and Bay Fortune, Mr. James Leslie, began his contract on Saturday last. The McKie's did the work satisfactorily for the 1st number of years and many are sorry not to see them still on the route, but such matters change hands nearly everywhere else and the mails on this route have changed hands with the east.

INCREASE YOUR WEIGHT.—If you are losing flesh and blood, commence at once taking Miller's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil, which is far ahead of all other preparations of the kind in existence. By taking Miller's Emulsion people gain from 5 to 10 lbs. by the time the first bottle is consumed. It is the greatest blessing of the century to all in delicate health, or who suffer with coughs, colds and ailments that tend to consumption. Remember, Miller's Emulsion contains all the constituents found in wheat. It is used in the hospitals and asylums of the country. In big bottles, 5/6, and \$1 at Charlottetown drug stores.

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SUITABLE FOR WEDDING DRESSES

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