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CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 1893.

VOL. 30—NO. 114

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Every lady in the Dominion should have a MELISSA wrap of some style. Costing only a trifle (about \$1.50) more than ordinary wraps of similar material, they are at once the most useful and most economical garments of the present day, because they are really two in one, being a rainproof garment as well as a stylish and comfortable wrap.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Tariff is Most Favorable to Farmers.

Sir,—Your Legislative philanthropists, like some few holding seats in the Commons, appear very anxious, if not needlessly troubled, in regard to the present tariff in its application to that class of our population now feelingly termed the "poor farmers" of Canada, to which it may truly be said that both as guardians and legislators, in such course, as well as in such groundless fears, they of your legislative and Local Assembly have greatly exceeded their right, by attempting to ford a stream far beyond their depth, when they pass resolutions condemning the tariff and federal legislation of Canada. More particularly does such such local remonstrance become gaddish, nauseous and impolitic, when such has been time and again resorted to in the Commons, where the tariff has been so frequently and viciously assailed as having robbed Canadians of hundreds of millions of golden dollars, and made the poor man and farmer poorer, hatched combines, nursed monopolies, made the rich man richer at the expense of the many, depopulated the country and reduced the value of land. Such have been the arguments annually detailed in the Commons, but never made clear to thinking people who are inclined to judge by results rather than become the adherents of speculative theory. These same stale waitings and thread-bare arguments are taken up anew and re-echoed in your Local Assembly, and reproduced in prayerful resolution, not with a view to obtain release from the imaginary evil at all but merely for fashion's sake, and to command and lead those of our people who are satisfied to live in the circle of partisan information and knowledge of all subjects relating to the government of the country.

Being a farmer myself for many years, and now, as then, in earnest sympathy with that honorable body, I have carefully studied the different changes in the prices and taxation of farmers' purchases since Confederation, as effected by the different grades of tariff taxation. Beginning with the 1874 tariff, and comparing all the changes with the present, I fail to see or learn by the only true means open to me of ascertaining, viz: an unbiased, non-partisan course of study, and series of tests, wherein the pre-ent tariff injuriously affects the farmer; but the reverse. It is to such form of study and means of learning that I would specially direct the farmers' attention, as well as the so-called tariff reformers, who are just now needlessly alarmed, and ask both to govern their opinions and words in line with the conclusion that the present tariff affects the farmer, and whether or not the farmers are, as a distinct body or class, laboring under any real disadvantage when fairly compared with others.

Let me here apply a test by which all may easily learn the truth for themselves, and make a comparison between the tariffs of 1878 and 1892-93. In the former year our total imports were \$93,081,787, and the duty collected that was \$12,795,693 being a percentage of 13.07 on the total imports; and for the year 1892-3 the total imports were \$127,406,068; the duty collected was \$20,550,581, being a percentage of 16.01, or an increase of but 2.94 per cent. between these tariffs and periods.

It is but a simple matter to ascertain what percentage of the total imports the duties collected bear to the whole sum in any one year. To do this correctly seems to be a good point to start from; a point, too, that guarantees an accurate solution of the tariff difficulty, which can be better explained or learned by honestly seeking the source and cause. Why do we not at present pay a correspondingly increased percentage of duty on our total imports in accordance with general ideas entertained in respect to the present tariff that has so largely increased the duties on certain lines of goods imported? This means of study and this phase of the question is but too seldom considered by those who are loudest in condemning the system, and never by those who are biased or politically interested. Yes, imports were but 49.06 per cent. of the dutiable, and only 33 per cent. of the total imports of that year. Thus we learn by correct comparison that whilst the percentage of taxation on the total imports in 1892-93—compared with 1878—had only increased 2.94 per cent. The free imports had increased 4 per cent. on the total imports, and 7.04 on the dutiable. These are nice points of study and convey much reliable and useful knowledge, and prove how our free list has been extended so as to reduce a high percentage of taxation on the whole volume of imports, and have at the same time enabled the Government to wisely decide as to what class of imports may bear the weight of duty, as

well to determine who of our people can best afford to bear the required taxation.

Next, to locate the higher-taxed goods and ascertain for whom such are principally imported, or by whom used, seems to be a proper feature of this study, a course which, if pursued fairly, will reveal the fact that it is not the farmer that is heavily taxed, but the business man, trader and retired married man who pays 75 per cent. of the revenue. To make this clear it is necessary to quote from the latest authentic records that point out that class of goods on which the higher duties are levied, and also the free articles and those that are but nominally taxed (see tariff regulations, 1892), then compare the tariffs of 1878 and 1892, and be guided by the results of such comparative examination. This done, it will be clear as to the line of duty-bearing goods, and for whom such are imported. Now let us compare the farmer with the different classes of people in their respective lines of purchase and consumption of goods on which a higher rate of duty is levied and collected under the provisions of the present tariff.

It should be known to all, and carefully considered by hasty tariff-reformers—and especially by our farmers—that during the year 1892-3 a very large proportion of the farmers' general supplies were brought in free of duty. For example, the free list that year included:

Free Tea	.....	\$ 3,500,000
Sugar, 8-10 cent per lb duty	.....	9,000,000
Free salt and coal	.....	6,000,000
Free fish, gulf fish	.....	500,000
Free settlers' effects	.....	2,000,000
Free tinoli, blocks, etc.	.....	2,500,000
Free lumber, plank, spikes, etc.	.....	1,000,000
Free miscellaneous	.....	10,000,000
Total	.....	\$34,500,000

Thus we have farmers' general goods to the above amount absolutely free, sugar excepted. How, then, can it be justly charged that the farmers are the down-trodden of Canada, or are those on whom the tariff bears most heavily? Rather than say so, let agitators and malcontents stop and calmly consider the question on its merits, and all the articles of import on which the higher duties are levied, and at the same time seek accurate information, and learn who it is that are forced by use and circumstance to purchase of the higher taxed goods, and for whom the free list and nominally taxed goods are intended. I will leave tobacco out of this comparison, as the farmer and banker indulge alike in this general and very highly taxed luxury, but reserve the right to choose the proverbial duels as having paid into the revenue fund during the year in question at the rate of \$2 per lb. specific duty, and 25 per cent. adv. on all cigarettes and cigars used. I merely refer to these items and this class to show that from these people up to the millionaire that quaffs his sparkling draughts of champagne, or who, like Count Mercier, that drives in a fancy New York barouche, and whoever else that purports to indulge in imported grandeur, whether such be a bicycle, dog cart or buggy of foreign make that pays the revenue and bears at least 75 per cent. of the tariff burden on their shoulders, and not the farmer. That this is as it should be none will deny. By all means let those who indulge in luxuries pay for them. Side by side with the farmer fishermen and general wage-earners who can and do at present purchase the necessities of life and warmth as per list above cited, and can purchase such necessities even cheaper than in 1878, whilst the farmers can purchase agricultural machinery 40 per cent. below the prices of twenty years ago and still rejoice in the wisdom of economic legislation that protects pork, beef and bread-stuffs against foreign competitors and slaughter sales.

Those alone who indulged in cigarettes and cigars in the year 1892-93 as a class contributed the selling sum of \$830,478 (including excise), whilst the total duty collected on binder twine by the farmers of Canada for the same period was the small sum of \$42,741, and here I may say that in order to meet the farmers wish in this small matter the Government during last session has reduced the duty on this item 50 per cent., which should be satisfactory to farmers who will only be asked to contribute one dollar to the forty paid by our monopolizing and highly taxed dudes that indulge in cigarettes, etc.

It will be seen too that \$1,000,000 duty was collected on bituminous coal and coke in 1892-93; \$150,000 on opium; \$3,250,000 on dyes, electric apparatus, fancy goods, toys, feathers, ivory, millinery, &c.; \$81,000 on trimmed curtains; \$1,000,000 on dried fruits, berries, jellies, pickles and jams; another \$1,000,000 on silks and silk manufactures; \$5,000 on soaps and hair powders; \$6,500,000 on spirits, wines, rum, beer and whiskies (including excise); \$308,000 on Dutch carpets and Brussels carpets, and a long list of other very highly taxed articles of a flesh nature, such as is found in the billiard and pool halls, none of which duty-bearing goods enter largely, if at all, into the farmer's life or regular line of wants or purchases; and to this mode of raising the required revenue may be added the postal duties and charges, which are in no way a special burden on the farmers, who should think well of and support this system of raising a revenue that is not in excess of the wants of our country's demands. On calm reflection it is to be hoped none will be found, either among our legislators or our farmers, who would aid in destroying a system so wisely inaugurated.

But the tariff reformers (so-called) contend, when fairly cornered in argument that is based on the true facts relating to our present tariff, that the farmers buy and use largely of the many higher-taxed goods, which is perhaps too true in many cases. Yet I contend such is not necessarily true, as our farmers do not, as a rule, nor are they forced to, buy or use bituminous coal or coke, nor are they compelled to purchase jellies, jams, pickles, berries or dried fruits, more than they are forced to indulge in Dutch or Brussels carpets, hair powders, champagnes or billiard rooms,

ALMOST A MIRACLE!

(The truth of which is certified by Dr. MARK CURRY, of Windsor, one of the best known men in Nova Scotia.)

Periculous Anemia, Hemorrhage of Bowels, with Complete Nervous Prostration, and general Debility, Cured by Skoda's Remedies.

"For 15 or 20 years I have suffered from Hemorrhage of the Bowels. Some days would have 15 Hemorrhages, and have passed 1-2 pint of fresh blood in 4 Hemorrhages, and a portion of my Bowels would protrude while at stool. For the last two years have been worse. Several physicians advised an operation.



GEORGE H. DEWOLF, of Windsor, N. S., a prominent man, having been a member of the County Council, &c. I was also afflicted, extremely nervous, feet and legs swelled badly, and the least exertion set my heart beating so rapidly, I would have to rest. Wished myself dead rather than alive. Four months' use of Skoda's Remedies has made a new man of me. Have gained 25 lbs. in flesh, Hemorrhage all stopped, Heart beats regularly, I can sleep like a child, and am better than I have been for 20 years."

SKODA DISCOVERY CO., WOLFVILLE, N. S.

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furniture, etc.; and as such free men, I heartily congratulate them as a favored class who can supply their own juries and jans, and in many cases wines, carpets and fuel from their own broad acres, with the science of skilled labor and machinery at hand. The farmers of Canada may rejoice in being the highly favored people that I claim are not ground down or discriminated against in any way, other than being specially protected and wisely provided for by the present tariff, 75 per cent. of which is borne by other shoulders than theirs.

If the tariff agitators would but turn their attention just now to some measure of aid to the farmers, and to the government of Canada, whereby a better market could be arranged for the products of the soil it would be a step in the right direction, whether by export or home consumption, as it is as useless as it is groundless to be clamoring against the tariff, which so far has not been argued against or even defended on its whole merits. There are many good reasons, apart from the tariff question, that go to prove that the old times and war prices for horses and cattle are over. Electricity has replaced many thousands of horses already, whilst the wild prairie is being made to produce its countless millions of bushels of wheat annually, and with free trade our great neighbors to the south of us overrun our markets and soon relieve us of all anxiety both as regards tariff and nationality.

That the present tariff fosters combines and breeds monopolies, grinds the farmer or wage earner, or unduly contributes wealth to the rich and tends to make the poor man poorer, is a proposition that no fair-minded man who investigates the question, and does so by a proper course, will admit. As to the combines of which we hear so much, it is not true that such exist in Canada—beyond what a few dealers or grocers may effect in certain districts from time to time. For example, coal oil is retailed at a higher price in Ottawa than in Cape Breton or P. E. Island, proving that it is not in the tariff but in the action of the dealers. It is across the border that such exist and flourish, principally in the Eastern States. It was there such originated in the early part of the century, about the years 1820-29, during the first frays between the northern or union states with the people of the south.

Much more could be advanced on this subject in this direction. Abundance of facts abound on every hand to dispel the biased or partisan fallacies that are being indulged in and spread broadcast without proper study or thought. The tariff, as at present, is wisely levied and made to bear most on those who can bear it, and with a little fixing, as time and circumstance demand, will continue to serve Canada and all classes of Canadians for revenue purposes and the legitimate wants of our new nation that still requires numerous outlays in necessary public works. Therefore, to lay rough hands upon, or to hastily remove or destroy that system by which Canada has become great during twelve years, would be to stamp a blur on our country and people and put an end to a progressive system of good, wise and economic legislation.

J. W. HUGHES,
 Ottawa, May 12th, 1893.

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THAT'S just what we're going to do, give everyone who deals with us fits, and GOOD FITS too. We have leased the Shop lately occupied by Mr. Horace Hazard, in the Cameron Block, and have as fine a line of goods in Scotch, English and Canadian Tweeds and Worsted as ever shown in this city; and what's better still, we are going to give the BIGGEST BARGAINS in Custom-Made Clothing that have ever been given here.

We guarantee to give the public the same satisfaction they have received from us in the past, and much better prices.

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Nice Spring Suits

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Men of Mr. Macdonald's standing confer immense benefits on humanity when they point out the true means by which disease, suffering and pain can be banished, and show how a new life may be obtained. An honest, meritorious and worthy medicine is always recommended by the best people; and it can be truly said of Paine's Celery Compound that its testimonials are of the highest character—not foreign, doubtful or bogus. It is for these reasons that our best people use it when afflicted.

No disappointments, no failures, no money wasted when you take a course of this infallible healer.

A few weeks ago Mr. A. B. Macdonald wrote as follows:

"Some four years ago I was so overworked by the pressing sales forced upon me, that I was forced to refuse many and cut off my regular work to a large extent. I was too late, however, in taking this first step, for disease had a firm hold upon me, and matters continually grew worse; finally, I refused business entirely and my condition was regarded as dangerous and dangerous.

To further intensify alarm and danger, grippe got hold of me, and by the time I had acquired that, diabetes was pronounced a stated trouble with me. At this stage physicians said to me, 'No matter what is done for you, Macdonald, you cannot live three years, and you cannot attend to any business from this time forth.'

Friends urged me to go abroad, but I decided to remain here and continue business.

At this time I commenced to use Paine's Celery Compound, but had little faith that it would do me any good. Soon I became persuaded that I could see a slight improvement in my condition, and this fact inspired me to continue the Compound; and from that time on my hope of recovery increased. Old friends and customers noticed my improvement from week to week, and I could gladly tell them, one and all, that Paine's Celery Compound alone was doing the work. Fancy my gratitude now to find myself in good business condition, and able to attend to all the requirements of my calling. I now sleep and rest with ease, and nervousness is entirely overcome. I have used the compound for a little over two years, but not steadily the whole time, as I have not found it necessary to do so."

The above testimony given by Mr. Macdonald is surely strong enough and sufficiently convincing for the guidance of every suffering man and woman. Your safety, hope and cure lies in the same medicine that Mr. Macdonald found so effective and honest.