

THE DAILY EXAMINER

JULY 27, 1899.

UNSATISFACTORY TRADE CONDITIONS

In the past year, ending June 30th, there was a decided decrease in the value of Canadian exports, and a very large increase in the value of Canadian imports.

For 1897-98, our exports amounted in value to \$164,152,683; for 1898-99 they amounted to \$154,083,650,—a decrease of upwards of \$10,000,000.

For 1897-98 our imports were \$130,698,006; and for 1898-99 our imports were \$152,021,058—an increase of no less than \$21,323,052. So that the trade situation is worse for Canada than it was last year—in so far as Great Britain, the other colonies of the Empire and all foreign nations are concerned—by upwards of \$31,000,000.

Our domestic trade may be upon a better footing than it was a year ago. In view of the increased products of our mines and manufactures and improved facilities for transportation, we hope and believe that it is so.

But our British and foreign trade is certainly in a bad way. In respect to it, we are buying more than we are selling; and drawing upon our domestic resources to make ends meet. We may be able to stand it if our domestic industries continue to be profitable. Otherwise the day of disaster must come.

HIGHER SALARIES.

WHILE the Liberal members of Parliament are clamoring for an addition to their indemnities, and while the Toronto Globe favors a proposition to raise the salary of the Premier to \$15,000 a year, the Finance Minister has actually brought down a measure to adding \$2000 a year, each, to the salaries of the Ministers of Customs and Inland Revenue. The policy of high salaries for efficient heads of public departments is all right. But everyone must see that the Liberal Party, the party of the inefficient, the party which incessantly railed at the Conservatives on account of the salaries heretofore paid the Premier and other Ministers of the Crown, is not the party which can consistently make large additions to the salaries of Sir Wilfrid Laurier his colleagues in the Cabinet and their supporters in Parliament. This is another point upon which the action of leading Liberals in the Government is in direct and flagrant opposition to their declarations when in opposition. The disappointment, distrust, and disgust of economical taxpayers may be better imagined than described.

WON'T SEE THE POINT.

The Guardian, this morning, points out that both Senate and House of Commons are subject to the provisions of the British North America Act,—just what we say. It also repeats the statement that the number of members of the House of Commons may be from time to time increased by the parliament of Canada,—which we do not deny. But it apparently fails to see that one of the provisions of the North American Act, to which the Parliament of Canada is subject, is that "Quebec shall have the 'fixed' number of sixty-five members," and that as "sixty-five" is to the population of Quebec, shown after each decennial census, so must the representation of the other provinces of Canada in the House of Commons be to their respective populations. We have to admit a present failure to make The Guardian see these latter points, but do not despair of success in the future.

A GREAT CONSERVATIVE.

Commenting upon the illness of Lady Salisbury the London correspondent of the Montreal Gazette says:

"Lord Salisbury has owed much, not alone in his happy domestic life, but in his public career for the last forty years, to the devotion and sympathy and to the bright wit of his wife. He is now old and weary, and should the heavy hand of affliction fall upon him, his retirement from his great position might surprise nobody, while it would leave a gap in the political life of the country hardly less than which was felt by all parties when Mr. Gladstone left the scene. It is a pleasing sign of the kind spirit which animates our public life to see the leading article in today's Daily News occupied with an eloquent expression of sympathy with the prime minister, and an appreciation of the high qualities of his character. It says: 'He has made no personal enemies. There is not one but that will feel a touch of sympathy and regret for the busy man so ruthlessly distracted from his business—for the statesman who cannot, for a moment relax his vigilance in public affairs. His blameless conduct in all the personal relations of life, has earned him universal esteem, and there is a warmer feeling still for the tired statesman, who finds worry instead of repose awaiting him at his house door.'"

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

—The Local Government is very sick today, and the thought of losing the McDonald limb is horrowing.

—Will Premier Farquharson hold on seeing that it has been demonstrated that he has lost the confidence of the country?

—The Patriot's rooster is not crowing. Something has struck the bird and he has been withdrawn from public view. According to present indications, he will not appear again,—it may be for years, and it may be forever.

—The Dundee Advertiser thinks "There can be no question that the Canadians are a go-ahead people, and that Professor Robertson, their Agricultural Dairying Commissioner, is a happy blend of the perfervid and the shrewd."

—The Montreal Witness refers to the Government's motive for spending so much of the people's money and says: "A great deal of money is being frittered away upon projects which will yield no adequate return, but the expenditure will please the constituencies" and, the Witness might have added, "catch votes."

—The expenditure of more than \$50,000,000 per year on consolidated fund and capital account, is enough to set the Canadian taxpayer thinking," remarks that red hot Liberal paper, the Hamlet Times. The editor of The Times evidently did it hard to forget that he was one of the movers of resolutions in the great Liberal convention at Ottawa in 1893, which denounced Conservative extravagance. He proceeds to shew "a brick at the fiction 'capital expenditure,'" remarking: "There are liberal appropriations for many harbors and public buildings, in various parts of the country. Works of that kind should, in our opinion, be paid for only out of current income. With all her world-wide responsibilities, Great Britain pays as she goes in time of peace, and manages to appropriate a considerable annual sum for the redemption of her old war debts. Canada ought to follow her example."

—Mr. E. F. Clarke, M. P., of Toronto, made a splendid fight for the proper representation of that city in Parliament. The Government supporters had taken the ground that the city is entitled to but few members because members representing rural constituencies live within the city limits. Mr. Clarke answered with a letter written by John Bright, who called for an equal number of representatives for an equal number of electors. "If your great city," said Mr. Bright, addressing a friend, "is only to send two men to Parliament while an equal population and property in some other part of the kingdom is to send twenty men to Parliament, then I say your franchise is of little avail." Why should Toronto have one member for forty thousand people, while Norfolk, with 25,000 people, has two? Why should Prince County in this province have two representatives and King's but one? These questions are asked of those who condemn the Senate for throwing out the Redistribution Bill.

Cherry Valley and its Church.

A short time ago, accompanied by a friend, the writer had the pleasure of visiting the pretty village of Cherry Valley. How delicious was the balmy air as we drove along the quiet country road that pleasant summer evening, when the whole earth seemed filled with the mellowed light of God's glorious sunshine. On either side were the many attractive and comfortable homes, beautiful fields revealing in their luxuriant growth of living green, while the tall grass waved to and fro in the gentle breeze. A short distance away a beautiful extent of salt water—"one burnished sheet of living gold"—glimmered and glistened in the summer sunlight—the whole forming one of those pretty scenes that linger long in one's memory.

On our way homeward we visited the English church. The sacred edifice is beautifully situated, being almost completely surrounded by the large number of tall, beautiful trees that adorn the church land, while a small inlet extends along the southern portion of the grounds. It would be hard to find a prettier location for a church than this charming spot, presenting as it does, a homelike appearance, that must appeal directly to the heart of every worshipper who comes to God's house to offer up his prayers of praise and thanksgiving.

After admiring the beauty of the lovely scene, we wandered into the cemetery that adjoins the church ground. It is also nearly surrounded by tall trees that stand there in all their grandeur and majesty, as though they would protect from the hot sun of summer and the cold blasts of winter those who lie peacefully sleeping "neath their shade. And just as you ground that speaks of peace and rest for those in the midst of the cares of life, seem an ideal place for a church, so does this sequestered nook seem an ideal place for a cemetery, where the weary soldier many lie down to rest after the cares and troubles of life are over, and the victory won.

As we slowly and silently pass along the sacred ground, we notice how carefully some of the graves have been tended by those who cherish deep in their hearts a loving recollection of those who have gone on before, and are reminded that this care for the last resting place of the departed ones speaks out more eloquently than does the costly monuments of marble and granite. This fact speaks forcibly to us as we pause beside a grave that bears the sacred emblem of the cross. Here are also growing a profusion of beautiful flowers that are emblematic of the stainless purity of the earthly life of the fair young flower that sleeps beneath, a life of grandeur beauty and simplicity that shone out so brightly amid the lights and shadows of this sinful world. And now as we pass out the cemetery gate, the prayer of the poet rises to our lips.—

Dear God! who gave us thought and breath,
Dissolve this mystery of death,
What sun shall light, what waters lave,
The mystic shores beyond the grave?
L.

—It has been well remarked that the present Government has "no policy relating to the general good of the country. It is in its public policy merely a distributor of election bait. Whether the people will take the bait is another story."



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