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The Morning Star.

J. E. COLLINS, EDITOR & PROPRIETOR:

FREDERICTON, MARCH 18, 1879.

The Tariff.

We will surely now get a rest from the grit newspapers. The lament over the tardiness of the national policy has been so great since a week after the new party going in power, that one might call the Dominion a mighty wake-house from which arose the most heart rending strains of the "keen." Many papers predicted that Mr. Tilley would never carry out the policy he promised on the hustings; they branded the watchword "Canada for the Canadians," base coin, current only at election time. Others held that Mr. Tilley had not the moral courage to frame a fair tariff, being pressed on every side by rings and came to the sad conclusion that he would have class legislation, a tariff for every Province, for every County, for every industry, for every manufacturer.

But when the estimate comes before us, what does it reveal? That Mr. Tilley has carried out in the spirit, if not to the letter, the policy advocated at the polls. His policy is as near a national policy as it is possible to make it; the grand principle, running through which is a protection for those articles which the Dominion produces in sufficient plenty, admission free for those articles which it is no object to protect.

Take the following list, all of which can be produced in our Dominion. A duty to protect these products, to stimulate those engaged in these enterprises, is put in the following order:-

Breadstuffs—barley per bushel 15 cents. Buckwheat ditto 10 cents. Indian corn, per bushel—7 1/2 cents. Oats, per bushel—10 cents. Rice, per pound—1 cent. Rye, per bushel—10 cents. Wheat, per bushel—15 cents. Pease, per bushel—10 cents. Beans, per bushel—15 cents. Buckwheat meal or flour, per lb.—1 1/4. Oatmeal, per pound—1 1/2 cents. Cornmeal, per barrel—40 cents. Rye flour, per barrel—50 cents. Wheat flour, per barrel—50 cents.

Then follows a class of articles largely imported and which we do not produce. It will be said by some that should be admitted free, but in justice to the revenue which must be raised a duty which does not impose a hardship is put. We enumerate a few of this class:-

Brass, in bars, bolts and sheets—ad valorem 10 per cent. Old and scrap—ad valorem 10 cent. Wire, round or flat—ad valorem 10 per cent. Seamless tubing, drawn—ad valorem 10 per cent. Tubing, plain and fancy, unfinished—10 per cent.

Who of the many thousands that toil to raise cattle and feed and care for them, will object to a duty of 4 cents a lb. on butter? How many come to market with excellent butter to find it full of the American article, "butterine," and be obliged to ship it to foreign market, sell it for a half nothing, or take it home? Every article has its relative value; and it is no argument against our case to say some one is benefited because the farmer has to sell his article at a low figure. In the same way we might speak of cheese, upon which is a duty of 3 cents per lb.

We next come to the awfully distorted, "coal" question. That Nova Scotia is capable of producing ample quantities of coal of the first order we need not say. Notwithstanding all the force of anti-coal tax delegations from Ottawa, the trade in coal is secured to coal producing Provinces by a duty of 50 cents per ton. On Cotton jeans, Bed Tickings, gingham, &c., there is an ad valorem duty of 15 percent. Apples, to which our farmers might turn their attention, will be taxed 40 cents a barrel. We should be able to raise all the apples we want for our own consumption, and the intention of this duty is to aid us to do this. The leather manufacturers have not been forgotten. Undressed, tanned leather 10 percent ad valorem, on the japanned, patent, or enameled, 20 percent. On bacon and hams, dried or smoked, 2 cents

per lb.; nails and spikes 1 cent per lb., and 10 per cent ad valorem. Oil which is abundantly produced in the Upper Provinces a duty of 6 cents a gallon is put. On paper, stationery, envelopes, &c., ad valorem 25 per cent. On piano-fortes from \$25 to \$50 each. On fishermen's salt, against the duty on which there was such a distressed howl, there is no duty; on salt in bags or barrels per cwt 12 per cent. On shingles ad valorem there is 20 per cent, something that must meet the wishes of thousands without a hardship to any.

On liquors there is put \$1.90 per gallon, applying to all "strong waters." This is one way to effect temperance; and this must be the motive; for the higher the duty on an article non essential to a people's existence, the less the revenue derived from it. On stationery of all kinds, not above specified there is a duty of 20 per cent. Something to our mind rather out of proportion.

Refined Sugar will be well protected—1/4 cent per lb. and 30 per cent ad valorem duty—the raw material entering at a low figure.

Thus it will be seen that we have a policy which while perhaps operating harshly to a few here and there, is of such a general character as to commend itself to the very large majority of the Dominion.

The Stumpage.

On Saturday evening, the members of the North Shore met the Government to press for the reduction of the stumpage rates. We do not know what the Government will do, but we certainly have no hesitation in saying what it ought to do. The stumpage rate should remain just as it is. If the Government were to abolish stumpage altogether, there would still be something wanted. The day has passed for the present when lumbering is what it has been. English markets have refused to pay us a fair price for our logs because trade is generally depressed. There is not now the ship and other building that has been nor is industry in any form active. Exhaustion has set in especially in the lumber trade, and rest is required. Let our trees stand, let others grow till the trade again revives, when the matter of 80 cents per m. will not effect the profits of the trade. Let our north friends turn their attention to farming, a business that can never fail; for we must have bread to eat.

The reduction of the stumpage would be injurious to our forests, for it would lead to a slaughter of them at a time when lumber cannot bring its price in market. It will deplete the revenue, which must be made up from some other quarter. But our friends from the north will not be influenced by the latter of these two objections. They say you southern and midland counties have given away your lands that you might have railroads. But has not the north the Intercolonial running by her doors, and why she did not give away her lands is plain. Beside we are but parts of one whole, and for the north to quarrel with the south reminds us of the fable told by that wise Roman of the hands going to war with the feet, the mouth with the belly, whereas one could not do without the other. We feel assured our northern friends will not press their demand, for it would not even be a benefit to themselves. They are no doubt pressed by their constituents and have made promises in haste as is too often the case, but we are in hopes, and almost assured that their good sense and judgement will in the end prevail.

Agricultural Report.

The report of Mr. J. L. Inches, Secretary of Agriculture, for the past year, now before us is rather encouraging. The money expended in purchasing wheat seems to have been well laid out, the qualities "Black Sea," and "Fife," thriving well in our northern climate. Only in a few instances the seed reached its destination too late. Mr. Butler's, of Queen's being one of the cases referred to.

Much enquiry has been made in the Beet Root matter, and there is much intelligent consideration given to the question. The Maine factory is the nearest to our border but the quantity of beets raised in that state has not been able to keep the factory profitably employ-

ed. It can use 75 to 100 tons per day, but was employed only 15 days in the past year. The following useful information is given—The sugar beet requires very much the same kind of land that is considered good for potatoes, carrots, turnips, mangolds or corn, and the expense of manure is very much the same for all these crops.

We presume the Secretary tries to tell the quantity of beets an acre of land will produce when he says—

It is stated on good authority that an acre of sugar beets will yield 20 to 40 tons and even as high as 50 tons in some instances.

This cannot mean that an acre of beets will yield 50 tons of sugar.

We get assurances that in consequence of the scarcity of potatoes in the Provinces the last year, due to the large quantities bought up for starch factories, more attention will be given that branch of industry. Attention is being also generally given to lime burning for farming purposes, and it is approved that farmers build kilns.

Mr. Costigan.

The newspaper reports speak loud in praise of Mr. Costigan's a slaughter on Messrs. Anglin and Smith. Mr. Costigan's speech is described as very powerful, brilliant and bristling with home-thrusts to the gentlemen above named. Mr. Costigan took the ground that the action of Letellier was in violation of what our interpretation and idea of responsible Government is, and in answer to Mr. Anglin, who held that the vote of censure on Letellier was striking at the base of the fabric of responsibility, he held copies of the Freeman and read therefrom extracts from articles headed "Overthrow of Responsible Government" relating to Governor Gordon's dismissals. Mr. Costigan showed that principle the cases were parallel, and scathingly Mr. Anglin on, a few years ago, calling for a public censure of a governor and now protesting against a like censure. Mr. Costigan is evidently a powerful speaker, carries much weight in Parliament, and is fast winning for himself the position of Irish Catholic representative.

WHEN the *News* foretold strange things that were to come to pass in the House and its prophecies miscarried we said, O the Government is safe; when Mr. Blair moved his want of confidence Resolution and only nine stood up and these ashamed of the act we said, That Government is good for eight years at any rate; but when we bid the last *Freeman* disapproving of the present Local Government, we say, All the powers of earth can't move it; for it is written and to the letter true: "Whatsoever the *Freeman* upholdeth shall fall, whatsoever it denounceth shall live forever." Though no fault of the *Freeman's*, yet a glorious article that, for the Government!

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