

A WORD TO CANADIANS

The U. S. will not Reduce their Tariff to suit Canada

The election of Mr. Grover Cleveland to the Presidency of the United States has been accepted by many Canadians as an indication that the Democratic party will favor reciprocity between the two countries. The subjoined article from the *Detroit News*, of 16th November, which expresses the opinions of Mr. Don M. Dickinson, who was Postmaster-General in Mr. Cleveland's former cabinet, and who has close personal relations with Mr. Cleveland, should convince every Canadian that there is but one way of getting free trade with the neighboring republic, namely, by becoming States of the Union. The article reads as follows :

A CANADIAN DELUSION.

"Some of our good Canadian contemporaries have begun to flatter themselves and their readers, since the recent overthrow of the Republican party, that there is easy sailing now for the Canadian commissioners whom Mr. Blaine dismissed with empty hands about a year ago. From the tone of the Canadian press one would think that Mr. Cleveland's government will scarcely warm their seats before a message will be sent to Ottawa offering a reciprocity treaty on Canada's own terms. Just how this impression got abroad in Canada it would be hard to tell. It is possible that the Canadians argue that the Democratic party, having leanings toward greater freedom of trade, will be more apt than the Republicans to throw down the barriers between the States and the Dominion. But why the Canadian more than the other barriers?"

"Our friends are woefully in error. They are hugging a delusion. If there were nothing else to contradict their expectations they should know that a free trade party is less apt to indulge in reciprocity treaties than a protection party. As Mr. Blaine says, protection and reciprocity are counterparts of each other. Protection is war; reciprocity is a treaty of alliance in that war. Free trade is peace with all the world, and no allies are needed in peace. The Democrats vigorously opposed Mr. Blaine's reciprocity schemes, whether with Canada or South America, and opposed them logically from the free trade point of view. That doctrine excludes the possibility of special favors to special nations, because it opens its doors equally to all. If it were possible to bring about free trade in this country, Canada would enjoy advantages with all other nations who chose to trade with us, but until that time she must take her chances with the rest, and wait.

"The Canadians have only to read the expressions of prominent Democrats since the election to form some conception of the extreme improbability of such a thing taking place during the present generation. There will be neither free trade nor revenue tariff during the present administration. There may be some trifling reductions, but they will not serve Canada's purpose.

"In addition to these considerations there is another of vastly more importance to this continent which will prevent any party that may come into power, whatsoever its theoretical principles regard-

ing tariffs, from acceding any commercial favors to Canada. During the past few years it has become apparent to the people of the United States that the political relations of this continent are of such vital importance that by comparison with them the commercial relations sink into insignificance. Mr. Blaine fully recognized this. He would not give to Canada anything like the favorable conditions he was glad to accord to Spain, the West Indies and to the South American republics. He would listen to nothing less than unrestricted reciprocity, which he knew perfectly well Canada could not accept. If he thought Canada would accept unrestricted reciprocity it is doubtful if he would have offered it. In a word, it is the well settled resolution of intelligent public opinion in this country that if the Canadian Provinces want the commercial advantages of States in the Union, they must also take upon themselves the political obligations, and cast in their lot for good and all with the rest of the continent. They must cease to be British dependencies and become American commonwealths.

"For this great step a very large portion, if not a majority, of individual Canadians are ready now. Many others are held back by the hope that, in the fluctuations of parties on this side of the border, they will get all the commercial privileges they want without incurring the political obligations. This hope is a delusion. We are Americans here before we are Democrats or Republicans, or Populists or Prohibitionists. All parties are one when the safety or glory of the republic is involved. While we love our Canadian neighbors, we cannot admit them to the privileges of the family until they become our brethren in very truth. The latch is always out for them, and they can come in and share the continental feast of prosperity whenever they please, but we shall not carry the victuals out to them. They must come in and sit at the table with the rest of us.

"It will be well for them not to waste the precious time in foolish hopes that they can enjoy all our privileges and perform none of our duties. So long as they insist on being European in their political relations they must be content to look to Europe for their trade. They have free trade with Great Britain now, so far as Great Britain can give it to them. Much good may it do them. If their hearts remain 3,000 miles away from us, their pockets and their stomachs must follow their hearts."

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OUR LIFE BLOOD EBBS AWAY

A PLEA FOR CONTINENTAL UNION

BY FIDELIS

Out from our bounds they're going, scores, hundreds, day by day,
 O'er country roads and city streets they take their lingering way;
 They choke down tears and smile "good bye!" our gallant boys and
 true—
 The lads that love the dear "old flag," at least, as well as you.

Yet they must seek an alien shore to live as exiles there
 For lack of place to earn their bread, tho' that might be to spare;
 For lack of room for honest toil their feet afar must roam—
 The lads that ought to be the stay of their old folks at home.

Ye send our best and brightest forth, our nation's hope and pride—
 More precious to our country's weal than all her wealth beside;
 To be the strength of alien states, of empire not our own,
 And all to "build the nation up" without its corner stone.

Then from the dregs of other lands, the wretched and the weak,
 Unfit for what before them lies, new sufferings come to seek!
 Will they give back to Canada the strength she casts away?
 Will they replace the gallant lads that leave our shores to-day?

Drag not the generous brave "old flag" into a party cry;
 Its folds have waved for freedom oft on many a day gone by;
 Claim not its name, its grand old fame for tyranny disguised,
 To hide the need and selfish greed of power and place misprized.

God gave this mighty continent to this our father's race,
 The north and south He made for all, and crowned them with His
 grace,
 That each might fill the other's lack, and love and plenty reign;—
 What He hath joined together let no man cleave in twain.