

**THE HERALD.**  
**JOB PRINTING**  
OFFICE,  
RICHMOND HILL.

"THE HERALD,"  
PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY.

Is sent by mail or other conveyance when so desired for ONE DOLLAR per annum in advance, single copies, three cents.  
The Herald will contain all matters of local importance, articles and comments on the political events of the day, the latest home and foreign news carefully summarized, trustworthy market reports, agricultural matters and general family reading.  
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M. H. KEEFLEK,  
Editor, Publisher and Proprietor.

**THE HERALD.**  
RICHMOND HILL, SEPT. 1, 1876.

**SELF-EVIDENT.**

We to-day place before our readers the speech made by Dr. Orton at Halton. It may be that some of our subscribers have already read it, but a second perusal will be no injury. It is a sound practical speech, and carries evidence within itself of being the true way of dealing with a nation so closely connected with us (geographically) as the United States. The people of this country cannot be too often told of the manner in which our rulers persist in allowing the manufactures and productions of the neighboring Republic to float in on us free of duty, or next door to it, whilst on the other hand, our productions are met with (in many cases) almost a prohibitory duty. To obtain reciprocity of articles from such clever people as live across the line, we should enforce it upon the same terms that they deal with us.

The people are beginning to find out that the words Reformer and Tory are easily put on, and as easily taken off, when it suits the occasion. The strong sense of the country is opposed to flams and make-shifts. The moderate thinking portion of the community have seen so-called Reformers, during the past three years, turn their backs upon all the professions hitherto made by them, and do and perform acts that any Tory would be ashamed of. The people must elect men to power who will, in their public capacity, act the same as if they were performing their own private business. In other words, no man dealing in his private capacity would pay a toll of twenty per cent for the pleasure of doing business with a neighbor, whilst that neighbor was allowed to do business with him free of cost. To our mind it is not a question of free trade or protection, but rather a question of fair play and justice to ourselves. We have all the elements of greatness within our own borders, and all we require is men at the helm of affairs who will rightly and justly appreciate their position, act for the good of the country over which they serve, deal liberally and justly with the people from whom they receive their pay, and not sell their birth-right for a mess of pottage to a nation who, whilst receiving all they can get from you, despise you for your meanness, and treat you with contempt for littleness of soul.

A series of discourses has been lately delivered in St. James's, Piccadilly, on "companions for the devout life." The distinctive peculiarities of these sermons may be judged from one delivered by the Rev. E. H. Bickerseth, Vicar of Christ Church, Hampstead. His subject was "Milton's Paradise Lost," and the sermon, thereon, although commenced with a text from the Bible, judging from the reports of it given in the papers, partakes rather of the character of a lecture to a Young Men's Christian Association, than of a sermon delivered in a church. There was a good deal of criticism on Milton's life and writings, and upon the further question how far he was justified in "the blind self-love of his arguments for divorce, and the vehemence of his political partisanship." Some of the papers criticise these sermons pretty strongly, holding that they are not fit subjects to be treated on from a church pulpit, and not likely to advance the interests of the church.

**FREE TRADE vs. PROTECTION.**

(Correspondence of the Farmers' advocate.)  
SIR,—After all that has already appeared in your columns in favor of Protection, I need not argue that question further, but merely wish to point out the consequence of Free Trade in England. It was not Free Trade, but Protection, that made England rich, and when her manufacturers had by their superior skilled labor and improved machinery attained a position that enabled them to supply the markets of the world, then was heard the selfish cry of Free Trade. At present other countries have under favor of Protection made such advances both in skilled labor and improved machinery that they now undersell the English manufacturers in their own market. American cotton is now sold in the English markets of such superior quality and fine finish as to give general satisfaction, whilst in large towns where new buildings are being erected iron girders from Belgium are used because they are cheaper. Belgian workmen work longer hours and live at a cheaper rate than English workmen either can or will do, and Free Trade enables them to compete successfully with English manufacturers, so that unless English manufacturers can make still greater improvements in their machinery and English workmen should prove willing to return to the old rate of wages, which is rather unlikely, either all nations must adopt Free Trade, which evidently they are not inclined to do, or the English Government must return to Protection principles again, or the decrease in the customs returns will compel the reimposition of the income tax. In whatever locality manufactures spring up an increase of population follows, and consequently a greater demand for the fruits of the field, the orchard and the garden. Whilst admitting that the Americans have carried Protection to the extreme of prohibition, which has had the effect of stimulating production to an extent beyond the wants of the community, and the over supply has caused great loss to the manufacturers, yet the great centres of industry which have been the result of protection still remain, and when the present excess of goods in the market has been worked off a resumption of manufacturing activity will soon be manifest. The more sagacious of their statesmen are beginning to perceive their error, and will probably arrive at a more correct view of their duties in a few years, and if our present rulers follow the American example just so far only as may be consistent with the real interests of the country, we may hope for better times than we have at present.  
SARAWAK.

A Mr. Carsley, of Montreal, has been writing to the city press relative to Mercantile Agencies, in which he shows up the rottenness of some of those institutions and the false basis upon which they conduct their business. "I would like to know," says Mr. Carsley, "where the agencies got their information from which enabled them to rate all their subscribers who have failed within the last year to be worth from \$50,000 to \$250,000 capital, when none of them have been worth sufficient money to pay 50c. on the dollar of their liabilities; and numbers of them have been insolvent for years, and would have failed long ago, if their right rating had been given, and which must have been known by the agencies, if they are what they profess to be." This is answered in a letter from one of the country agents to the head office of his Agency "which proves that the agent does not receive any pay from the agency he is supposed to represent, so that he only means he has of making money by it is by charging the business men in his district for a rating," or in other words a man in the country can be rated in accordance as he fees the agent in his locality, who from the most recesses of his heart exclaimed "it is one of the best paying business in Canada, as there are few men who dare refuse to help us in some way or other."

**Hero of Spoons.**  
Col. Charles S. Spencer, counsellor at law, some years ago had to defend one Marshall, charged with larceny, and against whom there was very strong evidence. Before the trial Spencer went to his client and told him that his only chance of escape was in a plea of insanity and he advised him to play the lunatic, and to answer all the questions put to him with the word "spoons." The day of the trial came on, and Marshall took his place in the dock, pale, haggard, and wild looking.  
"Guilty or not guilty?" asked the clerk.  
"Spoons!" drawled the prisoner, with a blank stare.  
"Come, plead guilty or not guilty," repeated the clerk.  
"Spoons!" was the only reply.  
"Prisoner, will you answer the questions put to you, or do you want to be punished for contempt of court?" asked the Judge.  
"Spoons!" bawled the prisoner, still unmoved.  
At this point the counsel for the prisoner interfered and told the Court that his client was not in a condition to be put on trial, as he was evidently not responsible for his actions, and it was an outrage on free citizens, &c.  
"Do you understand what is said?" asked the Judge, addressing the prisoner.  
"Spoons!" was his reply in accents wild.  
It was evident the man was crazy, and the Judge ordered him discharged. He was taken charge of by his friends, who were present, and left the court with him. Counsellor Spencer followed them and, congratulating him on his escape, suggested that it might be a good idea to pay him his fee. His client stared at him in blank amazement, and moved away with the simple remark, "spoons!"

**The Sea of Algiers.**

Another great engineering work apparently is on the eve of accomplishment one which should transform Algeria and the North of Africa, and exert no inconsiderable influence on the commerce of France—indeed, of the whole civilized world. This is the turning of the water of the Mediterranean into the deserts of Algiers, forming a great inland lake or gulf, or, to be more exact, restoring that which existed some twenty centuries ago. M. Roudaire, the originator of the scheme, is a captain of a French staff, who had made the geography and commercial development of Algiers his particular study; in 1872 he resolved to explore the country for himself and ascertain, if possible, what benefits, commercial and political, would accrue to France from opening up an inland sea. Having obtained the necessary furlough, with recommendations to the colonial authorities, he set out on his mission; but his efforts were so poorly seconded by them and they so exaggerated the dangers and difficulties of the work of exploration, that finally he set out unaccompanied on a trip that was to last thirteen months and be full of vicissitudes. He was somewhat aided at the outset by the discovery that Captain Picot de St. Marie, in his route of 1845, had proceeded on correct suppositions as to the inland sea, so that the latter explorer could conscientiously avail himself of the results of his predecessor's journey. From the Gabes he pushed on to Biskra, 240 miles distant, through unfriendly tribes, often suffering for want of food, water or shelter, but always taking observations and levels. From Biskra he returned direct to Algiers, where his success was warmly applauded by General Chanzy, and going to Paris he prepared, with the approval of the minister war, a long clear and valuable paper for the Revue des Deux Mondes that attracted much attention in the scientific world. The government entered warmly into the scheme, and last year Captain Roudaire was sent out to complete his explorations, this time as a special commissioner of the department of public instruction. After careful investigations and calculations verified by competent authority, he finds the formation of the inland sea of Algiers, with a length of 300 round kilometers, and a breadth of 60, or say, 210 by 36 miles to be not only feasible but most desirable. A formal report was made a month ago; another more extended and accompanied by a map on a scale of 1-100,000 is shortly to be filed, and the work will probably be begun next year. The Tunisian government will bear its share of the expenses, which are estimated at from 80,000,000 to 100,000,000 francs.

**Astronomical Science.**

One of the latest and most remarkable teachings of astronomical science is that the moon, when full, is so intensely hot that no creature known to us could endure contact with her heated surface. The reasoning in this case is that the surface of the moon is exposed during the long lunar day, lasting a fortnight of our terrestrial time, to the rays of a sun as powerful as that which gives our daily heat; and without an atmosphere to temper the sun's heat as ours does—not, indeed, by impeding the passage of the solar rays, but by bearing aloft the cloud-veil which the sun raises from our oceans—the moon's surface must become intensely hot long before the middle of the lunar day. Undoubtedly the want of an atmosphere causes the moon's heat to be rapidly radiated away into space. It is the earth's atmosphere which causes a steady heat to prevail on its surface; and at the summit of lofty mountains, where the atmosphere is rare although the midday is intense, yet so rapidly does the heat pass away that snows crown forever the mountain heights. Yet, although the moon's heat must pass away even more rapidly, this does not prevent the heating of the moon's actual surface. Accordingly, Herschel has pointed out, as far as a fact beyond doubt, that the moon's surface must be heated at lunar midday—or, rather, at the hour of lunar mid-heat, corresponding to about two o'clock in our afternoon—to a degree probably surpassing the heat of boiling water.

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