

## CHEAPENING SUGAR.

WHAT IT WILL TEACH THE PEOPLE.

The English Jam Industry—The Same Industry Hindered in America by the Tariff—Interesting Figures on the Subject.

The McKinley law will teach the public that the tariff is a tax, both where it raises duties and where it lowers or abolishes them. For example, sugar is already falling, although the duties will not be abolished till next April.

The present duty on raw sugar is \$2.22 per 100 pounds. Not only has the whole of this tax been added to the price of our sugar, but even more than the whole of it. A comparison between New York and London prices shows this conclusively. A comparison for the months of March and September, 1889, is given in the following table.

	English	American	American	price per	price
Date	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	per lb.	per lb.
March 2-5	4.30	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
March 5-11	4.30	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
March 12-18	4.46	5.00	5.24	5.24	5.24
March 16	4.50	7.125	7.25	7.25	7.25
March 17-23	4.50	7.25	7.25	7.25	7.25
March 24-30	4.50	7.25	7.25	7.25	7.25
March 26-31	4.741	7.75	8.00	8.00	8.00
September 1-4	5.35	8.25	9.20	9.20	9.20
September 5-8	5.01	8.25	9.24	9.24	9.24
September 9-11	4.68	8.25	9.37	9.37	9.37
September 12-14	4.74	8.25	9.41	9.41	9.41
September 18-22	4.76	8.25	9.46	9.46	9.46
September 23-26	4.74	8.00	9.48	9.48	9.48
September 27 to Oct. 1	4.74	7.75	9.51	9.51	9.51

After the sugar tariff is abolished next April the difference between London and New York prices will almost wholly disappear, and the American people will have another object lesson in proof of the proposition that the tariff is a tax.

The cheapness of sugar in England has had the effect to make its use much more extensive there than in any other country. England consumes seventy-four pounds a year per person, the United States fifty, France twenty-eight, and Germany twenty. One reason for the larger consumption in England is the fact that vast quantities of sugar are used there every year in making fruit jam, more than 300,000,000 pounds being consumed in this way alone. Much of this was exported to all parts of the world. Thousands of persons in England and Scotland have found employment in small fruit growing and in the manufacture of jam. As the result of her cheap sugar the poor working people of England have largely substituted jam for butter. An English country grocer makes this report:

"We have just ordered eleven tons of jam. Years ago we never used to keep it. When it was high we could not sell it. Now it is an article of food for quite poor people. At the school treats children used to think bread and jam a great pleasure; now they would rather have bread and butter, they are so accustomed to jam."

As sugar grows cheaper with us we may expect the jam-making industry to be greatly enlarged. This will involve a vast extension of small fruit growing, and there will be a great gain both to producer and consumer. But here one difficulty still stands in the way—a tariff difficulty. After jam has been made it must be packed in vessels. These are either glass tumblers or earthenware jars, and these jars are greatly increased in cost by the tariff.

The two following tables will make plain the part the tariff plays in both elements of the cost. The calculation is for one dozen jars of preserved fruit, each jar weighing one pound. The first table displays the difference of cost on sugar, which will, of course, be wiped out largely, perhaps entirely, by the new sugar tariff. Here is the first table:

More in	U. S.	Eng.	Total
Kind of fruit.	cents	cents	cents
Greengages and damsons	62.5	37.5	25
Strawberries	65.10	30.51	25.29
Raspberries and black caps	58.59	35.43	23.16
Peach (marmalade)	60.45	36.97	23.48
Quince	60.45	36.97	23.48
Lime	60.45	36.97	23.48
Red cherries	60.45	36.97	23.48
Gooseberries	60.45	36.97	23.48
Red currants	60.45	36.97	23.48
Current jelly	62.00	37.92	24.08

The following table gives the difference in the cost of pots, and the last column the difference for sugar and pots combined:

More in	U. S.	Eng.	Total
Kind of fruit.	cents	cents	cents
Greengages and damsons	62.5	37.5	25
Strawberries	65.10	30.51	25.29
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\*On account of tariff on sugar and packages.

The wholesale selling prices in London by the dozen are: Strawberry jam, \$1.30; raspberry and black currant, \$1.24; and other kinds ranging as low as 95 cents. There is, therefore, a tariff difference here against the American manufacturer and housewife equal to 40 per cent. and upward of the English wholesale prices.

When the abolition of the sugar tax has removed a part of this difference the people will doubtless see that it would be a good thing to strike off the tax on the jams also, and thus remove the entire difference.

On the latter subject Mr. Reed Gordon, a prominent jam manufacturer of New York, says:

"Give the American potters free chemicals and clay, give the American glass-tumbler manufacturers free chemicals and sand and they will need no protection. In fact the tumbler manufacturers need none now. Give us absolute free trade in sugar, glassware and earthenware so that we may be protected from trusts and combinations; give us absolute free trade in preserved fruits including jams, and we will buy more small fruits from the farmers, pay them better prices, and lower the price of our goods. We can then control the American markets, and build up a large export trade to South America where there is a large demand for jam and other 'sweets.' Not only this, but we would be able to sell our goods in Glasgow, Dundee and London, the chief jam manufacturing centers of the world. We would be able to compete with them in their own markets, instead of being undersold by them in our own markets as is the case to-day."

Our Trade with Canada in Farm Products.

For the year ending June 30 our imports from Canada amounted to \$40,522,000, and our exports to that country were \$52,219,000.

Trade of that kind ought not to awaken any fears from the protectionists, since they believe that the profit is with us whenever we sell more to a country than we buy from it. According to the notions of the protectionists themselves, there is no reason to interfere with our

Canadian trade; yet, under the pretense of protecting our farmers, McKinley shuts out Canadian potatoes, which next spring many of the farmers themselves will be forced to buy for seed, and pay the McKinley duty of 23 cents a bushel. A few figures will show the folly of McKinley's attempt to shut out the few Canadian farm products which we buy. While we import about 11,000,000 bushels of barley from Canada, we sell the Canadians 8,000,000 bushels of corn, against only 174 bought by us from them; and we sell them 1,800,000 bushels of wheat against only 129,000 bought from them. The Canadians sell us \$1,382 worth of flour; we sell them \$3,411,000 worth. We buy a few thousand horses and cattle in Canada, and \$91,000 worth of meat products; on the other hand we sell Canada 28,500,000 pounds of bacon, 16,390,000 pounds of pickled pork, 60,000,000 pounds of canned beef, and 12,000,000 pounds of lard.

Is it not a piece of transparent humbug to pretend that our farmers need protection from the farmers of Canada?

### TARIFF LETTERS TO FARMER BROWN.

#### NO. IX.

##### The Balance of Trade Theory.

DEAR FARMER BROWN: I have been neglecting you; but I will now resume my letters, and continue them for some time, for there is still much to say on the tariff question.

I wish in this and a few following letters to speak of the erroneous ideas on which the protectionists rest their system of economic belief. I am not one of those who think that the great mass of protectionists are consciously trying to palm off a humbug upon the people; I believe that most of them are sincere in holding that protection is necessary to the prosperity of the country. It is not possible for vast numbers of people to act together as a party on a basis of conscious hypocrisy. Humanity is not capable of such fraud.

The first error of the protectionist system is what is called the "balance of trade theory."

They mean by this term that our sales in foreign countries must be equal to what we buy there, and that if they are not so great we are trading at a loss.

Mr. Blaine had this balance of trade theory in his mind when he told us last summer that our exports to Brazil were only \$9,000,000 worth, while our imports from Brazil were \$60,000,000 worth, and he added: "John McNealy was fatally injured by the eaving in of a bank at Gheen's cement mill, near Jeffersontown.

—Abram Barkman, an aged bachelor farmer, residing south of Vincennes, was robbed of \$1,200 worth of diamonds.

—The general store of Martin Clapp, of Mabb's Station, was burned by incendiaries.

—Daniel H. Gilman, of Terre Haute, was sued the C. C. & St. L. Railway Company for \$10,000 for the loss of a hand.

—According to the figures of the new city directory, there are 400 more persons in Crawfordsville than the census men found.

—Lafayette West, an old Citizen of Cleveland, well and favorably known, fell from his barn loft, receiving injuries which will prove fatal.

—It now transpires that Mrs. John Rice Roll, who died near Kyano recently, died of small-pox. There is no doubt of this, but the disease is not spreading.

—Thomas Pacey died at his home in Muncie, aged 72. He had resided in Delaware County for the past half century, and was a highly respected citizen.

—Mr. R. McGinty, of Jeffersonville, went to bed smoking a cigar, fell asleep, set fire to the bed, and was so nearly suffocated that he was saved with difficulty.

—While laughing heartily Mrs. John Patterson, colored of Brazil, ruptured the optic nerve and was stricken blind. Physicians say it is the only such case known.

—Joseph Rowe, of Brazil, has sued Henry Brinkman, of Terre Haute, for \$5,000 because the latter fired a load of shot into his back in the course of a quarrel.

—At midnight Friday Andrew Hollapple and wife, living near Martinsville, were taken from their bed to a woods; tied up and terribly whipped by Whitecaps.

—A number of people were seriously poisoned at Greenwood, by eating prepared meat, purchased of a local grocer, which had been cooked in a copper kettle.

—An unknown stranger from Kentucky walked into the church at Sellersburg and asked to be prayed for as he was about to die. He expired half an hour later.

—The 2-months-old baby of William Harris of Fort Wayne, overthrown a coffee-pot and was frightfully scalded. The child will probably die of the injuries received.

—John Storhm, a car inspector on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago road, at Fort Wayne, in attempting to pass between two moving cars, was caught and crushed to death. He was unmarried.

—V. Q. Irwin, President of the company owning the 66-100 of a mile of turnpike still left to private ownership in Montgomery County, writes that they are perfectly willing to sell at the appraised value if the township were only willing to buy.

—Ball Bros., of Buffalo, N. Y., who located the first glass factory in Muncie, have commenced the erection of their second factory, which is to be four-pot concern and will employ 200 men, making nearly five hundred persons on their pay-roll.

—By the bursting of a defective water pipe Crabb & Reynolds, of Crawfordsville, had 800 bushels of clover-seed damaged to the extent of \$500. The water Company had been notified to fix the pipe and failing to do so, will have to pay the loss.

—Frank Brown the 15-year-old son of William Brown, of Fortville, is dead. Last spring two surgical operations were performed on the boy, the first an amputation of a leg and the second removing the entire leg from the socket. He apparently recovered his health, but a few weeks ago he injured the newly healed spot, with the above result.

—A pension of nearly \$13,000 has just been allowed William Millison, an insane inmate of the poor farm of Vermilion County.

—Hiram Warfel, an employee at Goding's brick-yards, at Yorktown, met with a serious, if not fatal, accident. As he passed under a large beam that was propped against the kiln the heavy timber was knocked down, falling on the young man. His collar-bone, one arm, and three ribs were broken, and he suffered other injuries that may prove fatal.

NOTHING satisfactory can be spiritually obtained in which selfishness has ever so slight a share; and what we will do, especially if it be any act of spiritual progress, we can always accomplish.—*anon.*

upon the further error that selling is more profitable than buying. Blaine examines our trade with Brazil, finds our sales to be \$9,000,000, our purchases \$60,000,000, and the difference of \$51,000,000, he says, was lost. He assumes that when we sold we gained, and when we bought we lost. But is not that assumption amazingly shallow? When you sell corn at less than it cost you to produce it, there is a loss, is there not? When by a good trade you buy a horse at less than the market price, you consider that you have gained, do you not? Every purchase you consider on its own merits, and so with your sales, and you are certain that you are just as likely to make a gain in buying as in selling.

One more very important fact must be noticed in regard to the balance of trade theory. When the exports and imports are summed up at the end of the year, it must not be forgotten that the exports are stated in American prices and the imports in foreign prices. Our total exports for 1889, including gold and silver coin and bullion, were \$839,000,000, and the like total of imports was \$774,000,000.

To illustrate the point I wish to make, let us take our exports of flour and our imports of tin plate. We exported 5,271,000 barrels of flour to England in 1889, which went into the treasury reports at the American price, an average of \$4.85 per barrel, or 24.43 cents per pound; and we imported from England 314,207,000 pounds of tin plates, which went into the treasury reports at the English price, an average of 2.88 cents per pound.

Now the point I wish to make is this: the moment we flour the moment the tin plates reached New York they were worth more than the Liverpool price of 2.88 cents per pound. Last year we exchanged flour for tin plates with the English at the rate of about seven pounds of flour for six pounds of tin plates; but did not want the tin plates; accordingly we exchanged the one for the other with profit to ourselves by a process of what Blaine calls "friendly barter." In this way it is of the very