

Am. ed.  
12/10

Apartado 64  
Camaguey  
Cuba

4 Oct-1910

Dear Sir

Fully 2 weeks before the final date I sent in a letter of 246 words for the Competition you had announced.

Without placing any undue estimate ~~on~~ on my ability in a contest of this kind I certainly indulged a faint hope that one of the \$25 prizes might fall to my lot.

When the October American arrived and I had read the production which had obtained a prize I was puzzled to discover the reasons for their success. The majority of them were to my mind mighty poor affairs. There was a rather hysterical exappiation in some of them, that high-plated, swaggering tone which in literature particularly rates upon one. If there are the choicest specimens out of 2500 efforts imaginative recollections from contemplating the rejected addresses.

As a profitable enquiry now of course, still I should like to know whether as a matter of fact you ever did receive that attempt of mine. Letters to and from Cuba so very often go astray.

I am interested in the Tariff controversy, and think you ought to bring under the notice of Miss Tarbell an article depending the Wool Schedule in Saturday Evening Post of 1<sup>st</sup> October. It traverses some parts of the ground outside of those trodden by Miss Tarbell and puts forward many assertions and theories which I believe she could prove to be inaccurate, misleading or fallacious. The issue is a most important one for Americans and indirectly for Great Britain.

I was in the British Revenue Service for 40 years and both officially and privately made a study of most questions of National Duties Taxes. I am an out and out Free Trader in theory but by no means bigoted in my views nor averse to vary in practice from the application of abstract theories of economic policy.

But this champion of the New Tariff in *Sat. Ev. Post* is quite outrageous in some of his statements. I ~~cannot~~ am not sufficiently typic in American local matters to write a hyperbole but I am prepared to show that in the references he makes to ~~cost~~ cost of living in England and to other points affecting the Empire and some European countries he is altogether wrong or else that he grossly exaggerates. For instance I ~~was~~ <sup>have</sup> been for over 30 years a householder in various parts of Great Britain. I have also resided for some months in the U.S. There is not a shadow of doubt that more than one half of the ordinary every day articles of food are from 20 to 100 per cent cheaper in Great Britain than in the States. And that all clothing - more especially woollen goods - are on an average about one-half the price in England.

Even such common things as sugar and bread which should be cheaper in the U.S. are both dearer than with us. It is not only the Tariff that causes this. In the ~~fact~~ sheltering shadow of the Tariff are hatched those huge birds of prey 'The Sugar Trust' and 'The Flour Trust' - et id genus omne.

Yours faithfully

H. T. Bamber

Has Mr. Lordy Viscount not a word to say for himself - or is in the Palmists' case also repaired even for good word though it was painful for him.