

FISCAL BALLADS

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Fiscal Ballads by Harry Graham

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HARRY GRAHAM

FISCAL BALLADS

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TO
P. L.

BENEATH your roof I chanced to write
These Ballads of the Fiscal Fight,
 A somewhat scant selection ;
So do not deem me indiscreet
If I should 'dump' them at your feet,
 And ask for your Protection !
Whate'er you be, or Fair or Free,
Be still, as ever, fair—to me !

NOTE

MANY of these 'Fiscal Ballads' have appeared in the columns of the *Westminster Gazette*, and are here republished by permission.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
FOREWORD - - - - -	1
PROTECTION - - - - -	4
RETALIATION - - - - -	8
THE COLONIES - - - - -	12
PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT - - - - -	17
BRITISH TRADE - - - - -	22
CONTROVERSIAL ENTERTAINMENT - - - - -	28
'STATISTICS' - - - - -	33
'CONTROVERSIAL METHODS' - - - - -	39
A MESSAGE FROM BROADMOOR - - - - -	42
THE TURNING TIDE - - - - -	45
ENVOI - - - - -	49

The first part of the document discusses the early years of the nation, from the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776 to the end of the Revolutionary War in 1783. It covers the challenges faced by the new government, including the struggle for a stable constitution and the role of the states.

The second part of the document focuses on the period of the early republic, from the 1790s to the 1820s. It examines the policies of George Washington and John Adams, as well as the rise of the Federalist Party and the emergence of the Democratic-Republican Party.

The third part of the document deals with the 1820s and 1830s, a period of rapid westward expansion and the growth of the industrial revolution. It discusses the impact of these changes on the economy and society, as well as the role of the federal government in managing the new territories.

The fourth part of the document covers the 1840s and 1850s, a time of intense sectional conflict and the rise of the Whig Party. It explores the issues of slavery, states' rights, and the role of the federal government in resolving these disputes.

The fifth part of the document discusses the 1860s and 1870s, the era of the Civil War and Reconstruction. It details the military and political events of the war, the Reconstruction period, and the challenges of rebuilding the South.

The sixth part of the document covers the 1880s and 1890s, a period of industrialization and the rise of the Gilded Age. It examines the impact of the industrial revolution on the economy and society, as well as the role of the federal government in regulating the economy and protecting the rights of workers.

FISCAL BALLADS

FOREWORD

I'm only a common workin'-man,
With a eye to my vittles an' beer,
But afore I puts my money on Joe,
There's a thing or two as I'd like to know,
Which 'e 'asn't a-made quite clear.

I admit as it sounds attractive-like
For to shut them furriners out,
But every Board School nipper knows
As there's things wot only a furriner grows
As we couldn't well do without.

There's sugar, an' rice, an' cocoa-nibs,
There's cawfy an' tea as well,
As we never could raise, suppose we tried,
And we 'as to buy 'em somewheres outside,
And the furriners 'as to sell.

But they don't give nothin' for nothink—
Which you can't dispute the fac'—
An' we're sending 'em hevery bit as much
Of our cotton-goods, an' our coal, an' such,
As 'll pay the beggars back.

An' the less we buys o' them furrin goods,
The less of our own's returned ;
Which it's plain to see as the more they take,
The more our firms 'as a chance to make,
An' the 'igher the wages earned.

For it's British Labour as pays the price
O' them goods as crosses the sea,
An' suppose as the furrin imports fail,
It's the case of a empty dinner-pail
For the workin'-man like me.

Let the furriner send 'is foodstuffs in—
Lor' bless you, I ain't afraid !
For the more we markets with other lands,
The more employment for British 'ands,
An' the better for British trade !