

THE RECIPROCITY CLAUSES.

These two clauses are as follows :

ARTICLE 2. Any commercial advantage granted by Canada to any third Power, especially in tariff matters, shall be enjoyed fully by France, Algiers and the French colonies.

ARTICLE 3. It is understood that the advantage of any reduction of duty granted by France to any other Power on any of the articles enumerated (in the treaty) shall be extended fully to Canada.

The opponents to the treaty interpret those two sections as follows :

"The representatives of Canada sacrificed our interests when they compelled us to grant to France the benefit of all reductions that should be made to our tariff, as France, in return, only binds herself to grant any reduction of her tariff on Canadian products mentioned in the treaty."

This would be correct if Canada were granting some special advantages to France ; but we have granted to France no such advantages. The French plenipotentiaries were quite aware that the reductions enumerated in the treaty would be profitable to other countries, and in return they ask that reductions made subsequently by Canada to other countries must be extended to France.

Those two sections might be transformed into the following one without altering the present dispositions of the treaty :

All the privileges granted to France in the present treaty will be granted to other countries alike, and all privileges granted subsequently by Canada to other countries will be extended to France.

The two sections thus denounced and termed "The reciprocity clauses," have no other meaning than what is expressed in the above lines.

As to the fear that these clauses will prevent Canada from making a treaty of reciprocity with the United States, it is sufficient to say that the present agreement with France may be terminated at twelve months, notice, and that any kind of treaty with our neighbors will take more than twelve months to draft.

THE WOODEN SEA-GOING SHIPBUILDERS' BOUNTY.

The bounty allowed to the shipbuilders amounted to 20 francs per ton before the new French tariff of 1892, but was increased to 40 francs per ton by a law dated January 30th 1893. That increase in the bounty was the consequence of the increase in the cost of materials due to the changes made in the French tariff in the year 1892. Consequently the Canadian shipbuilders cannot be affected by it. Moreover the commissioners for Canada were perfectly aware of such an increase of bounty, the treaty having been signed as late as February 6th 1893, that is to say a week later than the promulgation of the law just alluded to.

THE WINE INDUSTRY IN CANADA.

The wineproducers of Canada will suffer nothing by the increased imports of French wines ; nay, that increase in the imports of wine will give