

their places is to support unrestricted reciprocity, they would not lose twenty-four hours in posing before the people in this matter as they have done many a time before as the very warmest supporters of a scheme which they had up to that date opposed and ridiculed to the utmost. Sir, history would only repeat itself, and Sir John A. Macdonald would do no more in this case than he did once before in the case of the project of Confederation, which, to my own certain knowledge, he only adopted when it became quite clear that he would be politically overwhelmed if he did not.

#### ALLEGATION CANNOT OBTAIN RECIPROCITY.

One word, however, as to the oft-repeated allegation that it is quite idle to discuss this question, inasmuch as the United States will never agree to it.

Sir, this assertion is on a par with many other statements I see made by ministerial organs.

Apparently they cannot so much as allude to this matter without involving themselves in a perfect mass of contradictions.

One day we hear from one section of them that unrestricted reciprocity in natural products would ruin the Canadian farmers.

Another day we hear from another division (nay, sometimes from the very same papers which at first preached the very opposite doctrine) that the present Government are most anxious to secure that sort of reciprocity—and ruin, I suppose, the Canadian farmer.)

So you have these worthies declaring, in the teeth of the plainest evidence to the contrary, that the Yankees will not treat with us at any price; and, to make assurance sure, we have Government twice over, in two successive years, deliberately refusing to make the smallest advance or even to attempt to open negotiations with the United States.

Pray, what do they expect the people of the United States to do? Manifestly this thing is of more importance to us than to them, and yet our legislative Solons will not even ask for it!!

They first shut the door in the faces of our neighbors and then complain that they won't come in.

#### MORAL AND POLITICAL BENEFITS FROM RECIPROCITY.

And now, sir, it becomes my duty to point out how and why I hold that great moral and political advantages would accrue to Canada from adopting the Liberal policy in this respect.