

RECIPROCITY

farmer buys to-day is no dearer than it was twenty years ago, in other words, the purchasing power of his dollar as to most of the things which he has to buy, is about the same thing as it was twenty years ago. But how about the other side of the picture? The farmer gets for what he has to sell from 25% to 125% more than he did twenty years ago! In other words, while his dollar buys nearly as much as it did twenty years ago, that which he sells gives him from \$1.25 to \$2.25 for his dollar of twenty years ago! So that his benefits have enormously increased without much more burden being placed upon him. This is as it should be, because, after all, the strength and virility and life-blood of a nation is in the farming class! They are the backbone and the sinew of any nation that is truly great and strong. You must have the small landed proprietor if you want a really great people. The commercial and industrial classes are never, to my mind, to be compared in real, lasting strength, and in that which goes to make up a great nation, with the small proprietary, landed class. On the land they acquire habits of thrift, industry, independence, and of tenacity of purpose, which the great classes in the city do not have.

The east has burdened itself by the building of railways, etc., to seek the western farmer, and has enabled the creation of the farm, and it is our duty to give him rates to the eastern market and the market of the Mother Country by our railways and shipping facilities, which will enable him to make a living in competition with other sellers of products in these markets. To do this he must not be over-taxed. He must not be made to pay the profits upon watered stock. He has a right to demand and will demand at your hands that you, while having a tariff to protect you, should not have a tariff