

because the Japanese treaty did not embody the provisions contained in the German and Belgian treaties. As every one acquainted with the subject knows, these treaties contained an express stipulation that any concession or advantage granted by Canada to the mother country must be granted also to Belgium and Germany. There was no such stipulation in the Japanese treaty, and for that reason no such difficulty could have arisen. Indeed, in the following year the Canadian Government itself passed an order in council declaring that Japan was entitled to the benefits of the reciprocal or preferential tariff. *The Minister of Trade and Commerce in his report did not take into consideration the labour question at all, but did have regard to a consideration which seems to me altogether fallacious, and which should not have interfered in the slightest degree with the adhesion of Canada to this treaty. Nevertheless the Government adopted his recommendation and affirmed it by order in Council.*

On the 18th of September, 1896, Mr Chamberlain notified Canada that Queensland had refused to accept the treaty unless given freedom of action in respect to the immigration of Japanese artisans. A further order in council was passed by the Canadian Government on the 15th of October, 1896, refusing to accede to the treaty for the reasons already stated. On the 21st of October, 1896, Mr. Chamberlain communicated to the Governor General the information that the time for adhering to the treaty had been extended for one year, that is to the 25th of August, 1897.

On the 8th of October, 1896, the British ambassador, in a report to Lord Salisbury, declared that the Japanese Government had at last come to an understanding with him respecting the exact terms of the protocol, which reserved to the self-governing colonies acceding to this treaty the control over immigration. That report and the protocol itself are of importance in understanding the position which this government afterwards took. The dispatch, dated the 8th of October, 1896, contains the following language :

" I have the honour to inclose copy of a draft protocol which, " in pursuance of an understanding arrived at with Count Okuma " on the 2nd inst, I placed to-day in His Excellency's hands. It " provides for the reservation of the right to legislate with regard " to trade, immigration of labourers and artisans, police and " public security to all the colonies and foreign possessions of