

blocks hewn and fitted, ready to be placed at once into any structure. Is it not likely that all the different quarries of the dominion would at once be set at work? Red sandstone, grindstones, marble, and even granite could not here be cut and wrought, except by convict labor, as cheaply as it is now done by common Canadian and Nova Scotia stone-cutters. Coarse cotton goods and tweeds of wool, and iron and steel, and boots and shoes would soon find a new Lowell, a new Pittsburgh, and a new Lynn far away from the stars and stripes. In Canada what we term fancy cassimeres are quite as often known and described as tweeds. The phrase "tweeds of wool" includes a wide class of goods, hitherto yielding little profit to further and uncertain competition. Boots and shoes are now almost wholly made by machinery which, marvellous in all its parts as it is, can be cheaply transferred to Canada and soon worked even by unskilled and alien hands. Machinery knows no allegiance, and works as cheerfully in one place as another. Is it not manifest that the proposed treaty should not receive any favor? Is it not in fact a hook baited with a red rag?

There will be a lurking ambiguity in the practical interpretation of such a treaty, and our experience teaches us to beware of ambiguities in any treaties, especially with Great Britain or with the Canadas. The articles proposed in the schedules to be admitted free are to be the growth, produce, or manufacture of the Dominion of Canada. The question will arise, to what and how far does this apply? Raw materials, if sent to us, must be of Canadian growth or produce; but may not manufactures be wholly or in part of foreign materials? If so, boots and shoes may be made of foreign leather, and yet be called manufactures of Canada. English yarns might be woven into cloth, either of cotton or wool, and thus become Canadian manufactures. They might first send all of their wool here to market, and then send whatever they choose to call tweeds, wholly made of foreign low-priced wools, and would they not pass for Canadian manufactures? Would ready-made clothing need to be made of any other than British cloth? English, Russian, or Swedish iron and steel could hardly be distinguished from Canadian iron; and if it could be, when made into rails, nails, spikes, axes, scythes, plows, hoes, shovels, or spades, they would all be called Canadian manufactures. Screws made of English wire, and nails of English nail-plate, would claim reciprocity privileges. Marble, in blocks or slabs, from Italy as well as from Canada, when wrought into monuments, mantels, or anything else, could not be denied the claim as Canadian manufactures. Castings made of Scotch pig-iron, or any other, in the form of stoves, ranges, hollow-ware, or machinery, would be held to be thoroughly Canadian. Manufactures advanced a single stage, receiving the last finishing touch, might thereby obtain the guild of Canada. Suppose any of these articles to have the proper Canadian stamp and label upon them, how would any fraud be detected or punished? The frauds will be perpetrated, if perpetrated at all, as they are very likely to be, by Canadians. Can we send there to detect or punish them?

Our revenue laws, sitting too lightly upon the consciences of our own people, have never bound the consciences of Canadians, and their reverence would not be much intensified by a reciprocity treaty. Thin partitions would divide free from dutiable merchandise. Custom-house oaths are elastic the world over; and who could tell, except the men who swear, whether agricultural tools, grain-bags, tweeds, and locomotives were manufactured wholly or in part in the Canadian dominion or elsewhere? The Canadian field of smugglers,