

undoubtedly show; but the amount refunded will be proportionably increased, so that the treasury will not be affected by the augmented collections from this cause.

Our entire imports from the British North American colonies in 1845 were of the value of about two millions of dollars. Of this amount more than nine hundred thousand dollars consisted of gold and silver; and more than eleven hundred thousand, including specie, were free of duty. The remaining nine hundred thousand dollars are to be divided between Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick; and from the nature of the articles it is manifest that the quantity received from Canada was but a small portion of the amount. For instance, fish constituted nearly four hundred thousand dollars of the nine hundred thousand; and this came from the Atlantic provinces. The year 1847 gives nearly the same aggregate result. Our entire imports from all the British North American colonies constitute a very inconsiderable part of our commercial transactions with foreign States; and no change we can make in our intercourse with Canada can have any material influence upon them.

Notwithstanding this small import from the British North American colonies, our commercial intercourse with them, including Canada, is as beneficial for its extent as that with any portion of the world. We sent into them in 1847, products of the value of nearly eight millions of dollars—about five million eight hundred thousand domestic, and over two millions foreign. The foreign exports were probably, to a great extent, sent through the United States on foreign account. Our imports directly from those colonies, the same year, were of the value of about two millions and a quarter. The remaining five millions and a half (deducting some hundred thousand on foreign account) must have been paid by bills on England. A large portion of our exports into Canada is probably paid for in this way. She sends her lumber and flour to England, and with the proceeds pays us the excess of her imports from us over her exports to us.

But it is only a small portion even of these exchanges which this bill can affect. It is only that portion which embraces the enumerated articles. Now, I have ascertained that in 1847 we did not import of those articles from all the British North American colonies an amount equal in value to one hundred thousand dollars. From Canada it must have been quite inconsiderable. The intercourse this bill is destined to affect is, therefore, not only limited in its extent, but it is essentially local in its character. No apprehension is expressed in any quarter as to its practical operation, excepting

as respects competition in the production of wheat. I trust I have shown that even this apprehension is without foundation. But if it were not so, the States on the frontier are those most likely to feel the influence of the competition. Ohio is the largest wheat-growing State in the Union. She produces a little less than seventeen millions of bushels—nearly four times as much as Canada. Next in order is New York, with a product of fourteen millions and a half of bushels—more than three times as much as Canada. Michigan, in 1847, with a population not one-fourth of that of Canada, produced nearly twice as many bushels of wheat. These are the States which should object to the free exchange proposed by the bill, if objection could reasonably be made in any quarter; and yet they are the very States in which the measure is most earnestly desired. It is, in truth, a measure which exclusively concerns the inhabitants of the frontier; and I earnestly hope Senators representing States which are far removed from it, and which cannot be affected by the proposed measure, will consent that the wishes of the parties immediately interested shall furnish the rule of their intercourse with each other.

I have endeavored to show, Mr. President, that the Canadian Government has acted with great liberality towards us; and that by reciprocally removing the duties on the agricultural productions of both countries enumerated in this bill, we do no injury to any interest, but create a mutual benefit.

I was very much surprised to hear the Senator from Maryland [Mr. PEARCE] say that there was no reciprocity in the proposed arrangement; that "the bill is delusive. If it pass, not a dollar's worth of any of these products will be exported from the United States to Canada." The Senator could not have examined this subject with his accustomed care. Let me convince him that he has not done so. In 1847 we exported to Canada 83,983 barrels of flour, and 562,553 bushels of wheat, with a duty of about seven and a half cents a bushel on the importation; we also sent her 64,378 bushels of other grains.

Mr. PEARCE. I will thank the Senator to state whence he derives his information. I do not find it in the public documents.

Mr. DIX. I have obtained the information from the custom-house statistics of Canada, to which I have referred, furnished at my request by the officers of the Canadian Government.

We also sent into Canada 943,280 pounds of tallow, with a duty of one per cent.; (the very large export probably resulting from the very low duty;) 25,000 pounds of butter, with a duty of