

Our answer to them all is—Let the agreement speak for itself. The whole arrangement is covered by certain correspondence signed on the part of the Canadian Government by Mr. Patterson and myself and on the part of the United States Government by Mr. Knox, the Secretary of State. This correspondence has been widely published and is accessible to all who wish to read it. There is no other agreement, arrangement or understanding of any kind. The complete transaction is found in the correspondence referred to. An examination of that correspondence will show that the character of the agreement has been systematically misrepresented by our opponents. If independent electors when they hear the arrangement condemned will take the trouble to obtain a copy of the agreement and read it carefully, I am satisfied that it will commend itself to their judgment.

If it were necessary to do so the Government might safely appeal to the country on the record of what has been accomplished under the administration of Sir Wilfrid Laurier during the past fifteen years. But I would urge you to remember that the chief question to be determined to-day is that of our trade relations with the neighbouring Republic. Our opponents, while pretending that they desire to have the sense of the people taken on the question of reciprocity, are now endeavouring, by all manner of side issues, to divert attention from that great question. They must not be permitted to succeed in this respect.

The reciprocity that all the leading public men of Canada have sought for so many years is now within our grasp. To the electors of Canada is submitted the question: will you accept or reject it? Never before in reciprocity negotiations has the question come before the people in this concrete form. It only remains for the people of Canada to say "Yea" or "Nay" to it.

I cannot doubt that the answer of the electors will be in the affirmative. They will, I feel assured, appreciate the opportunity that has arisen and will send to the new House of Commons representatives instructed to enact the law necessary to bring into operation as early as possible an agreement so fraught with benefit to the Canadian people.

HALIFAX, N. S., August 19th, 1911.