

by His Excellency, and that its result will be as beneficial as its opening is auspicious. We will all agree, no matter on what side of the House our fortune, or our misfortune, may have placed us, in the wish that the labours of the manufacturers, the farmers, the fishermen, the miners and the lumberers of our country, the men whose labour and toil really make the country and produce its prosperity, may have their labours crowned with success, and that their endeavours may generously be rewarded. The policy by which the North-West Territories were acquired by this Dominion and were subsequently opened up by the building of a splendid line of railway extending from ocean to ocean, has been the means of allowing civilization to spread its beneficent arms over the great West, and has added vastly to the area of our agricultural and settlement lands and has added very much to the greatness and the prestige which this country enjoys to-day in the eyes of the world. In view of this, I think that the visit of the tenant farmers to this country, whose admirable reports have been printed and published throughout England and Scotland, will be of great benefit to this country, as these practical men who came here to view the country for themselves and to give the result of their examination to the people of the country in which they live, will have the result—they being practical men and known to be such, and their reports being scattered broadcast amongst the people—of doing great service to Canada, and their visit will do more good than a hundred paid immigration agents, and, I think, will prove to be no small factor in attracting to our shores the population of the old world who are thinking of making for themselves a prosperous home in the new. I think we will find, as the result of this visit, our great western country peopled by men of good means, and becoming, as it ought to be, the happy home of many millions of prosperous freemen in the near future. I have read the pamphlets which have been cast broadcast on this subject, and I have read them with a great deal of pleasure. There is one report written by Mr. J. T. Wood, a tenant farmer who lives near Liverpool in Great Britain, and this is a sample of what he finds as illustrating what energy and intelligence can accomplish in this great Dominion. He says :

“ One of the best managed farms in the neighbourhood of Brandon is that of Mr. Sandison; and although his success must be taken as much above the average, it nevertheless shows what is possible in a good district when a farmer is thoroughly master of his work, and understands the management of the soil. It is Mr. Sandison's pride to relate how, in 1884, he, as a farm labourer, entered the North-West, hiring himself as a servant at Carberry, and saving money until he was in a position to gradually and quietly acquire land: how, in 1886, he commenced farming on a half-section (320 acres), and being fortunate with each succeeding crop, has added annually to his area, until in 1890 he has 2,000 acres under cultivation, the purchase price of which is nearly all paid; he has 70 men who are housed and fed on the premises, and during the harvest season just completed had 40 horses and 14 self-binding machines. Mr. Sandison's crop of wheat, oats and barley (principally wheat), aggregated 60,000 bushels, and he estimates the value of his present property at £10,000, giving quite as much credit to the wonderful soil and climate as to his own pluck and clear head. Mr. Sandison maintains that Manitoba compares more than favourably with Dakota, and that its superior advantages will soon be universally recognized.

In the face of these facts can we have the slightest doubt about the prosperity and the success which will, in the near future, attend the western part

of this Canada of ours? It was, I think, most expedient and very proper that the advisers of His Excellency, late last year, should have reminded the Government of the great Republic to the south, of our willingness to join with them in developing the trade between the two countries. In doing this the Government of the day were simply following out the policy which we have pursued in this country ever since the year 1879, when they caused that policy to be embodied in an Act which was then placed upon our Statute-book. Now, Sir, it must also be very gratifying to this House to know that, our Government having reminded the Government of the United States of their willingness to treat with them, a time has been fixed in the month of October next for holding a conference for the purpose, not only of considering trade matters, but for the purpose, also, if possible, of arriving at an amicable settlement of all matters in dispute between the two countries, including the fishery question and the Behring Sea dispute. That conference, I believe, will be watched with very great interest by the people of the whole of this North American Continent. The relations and the interests of the people of the two countries which compose the northern part of this continent, are, in a commercial way, in a social way, and in a friendly way, closely interwoven in many respects, and I believe that if a fair reciprocity treaty can be effected along the lines of the old Treaty of 1854, it will be of considerable benefit to both countries, and that it will meet with favour from all parties in the Dominion of Canada. But while I say that, and while I believe that the people of this Dominion are willing to go a considerable distance for the purpose of negotiating a reciprocity treaty on terms fair and honourable to Canada, and on terms fair and honourable to the United States, at the same time I think I am voicing the sentiments of a great majority of the electors of Canada, as was shown by the recent election, when I say that so long as we maintain our British connection—as I trust we will continue to do for all time to come—as long as we continue under the protecting aegis of the British flag, as we have been for the past 200 years, as long as we have the strong right arm of England at our back, and enjoy the protection of her army and navy—as long as that is the case, I think, as I said before, that the people of this great Dominion will not approve of an arrangement which would hand over the control of our tariff to the American Congress at Washington, and which would discriminate against the mother land in favour of a foreign country, however much we may esteem the people of that country. As this conference is to consider, not only the trade relations between the two countries, but the other outstanding difficulties between them as well, it is only fit and proper that the provisions of the *modus vivendi* should be continued in operation for another year. That *modus vivendi*, as, of course, the hon. members of the House all know, was agreed upon for the purpose of giving the Senate of the United States time to ratify the Treaty of 1888. That treaty, as we know, Sir, has not been ratified by the Senate of the United States; but I feel that at the present time, in view of this conference to be held at Washington, nothing should occur which would in the slightest degree cause any friction, or which would mar in any way the friendly relations existing between the two coun-