

## COMMERCIAL RELATIONS

OF THE

### BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN PROVINCES.

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The United States Congress having adopted a joint resolution declaring that "it is no longer for the interest of the United States to continue it (the Reciprocity Treaty) in force,"—the approval of the President was given on 18th January, 1865; and on the following 17th day of March, Mr. Adams, the American Minister at London, gave the requisite notice to the British Government for the abrogation of the Treaty.

This action of Congress and the United States' Government called forth various expressions of opinion, particularly among those engaged in business affected by the proposed abrogation; and a call for a Commercial Convention to discuss the subject of reciprocal trade and kindred questions, emanating from the Detroit Board of Trade, was extensively responded to,—the meeting taking place in that city. The Montreal Board of Trade united with the Corn Exchange Association in sending a delegation. The sittings of the Convention commenced on Tuesday, 11th July last, and continued during four days. The following is one of the resolutions adopted:—

*Resolved.*—"That this Convention respectfully request the President of the United States to enter into negotiations with the Government of Great Britain, having in view the execution of a Treaty, for reciprocal commercial intercourse, between the United States and the several Provinces of British North America; including British Columbia, the Selkirk Settlement, and Vancouver's Island; based on principles which shall be just and equitable to all parties, and with reference to the financial condition of the United States; and which shall also include the free navigation of the St. Lawrence, and the other rivers of British North America; with such improvements of the rivers and enlargements of the canals, as shall render them adequate for the requirements of the West, in communicating with the Ocean."

The gentlemen who attended the Convention from the British North American Provinces deemed it expedient to confine their action to giving information on the subjects of Reciprocal Trade and Transit from the West to the seaboard.