

yet they would see that he did almost approach them in that manner. This was manifested by the argument used in the paper, by the fact in the first place of a paper being presented at all, and in the next by his visit to Washington. To have been successful they should have started on the true basis that each country was interested in reciprocity. A suggestion to that effect might have been made to the American Government, and if satisfactorily answered, then some one might have been sent down to Washington. But when they found the hon. gentleman going down so promptly, and urging upon the Washington authorities the granting of this treaty—working for it and presenting reasons, which to his mind, rather indicated that this country did not want the treaty—and then, instead of being met by some advance on the part of the United States, by a disposition not to make any step in that direction, he certainly thought that they had gone the wrong way to work, and that that was not the spirit in which the people of the country would like the Americans to be approached. It would have been better to have approached the Americans on more equal terms than we had actually carried out and practiced, though he admitted, that the way in which he (Mr. Brown) had proposed to carry on the negotiation was the right way; but he contended at the same time that it was not the plan which he eventually adopted. He thought that the general feeling of the country was that Canada had as much to give as America. When they looked at the enormous population which America possessed, and considered the advantages which they might hope to obtain from reciprocal commercial relations, although they of course would be glad to avail themselves of these advantages, yet at the same time they were under no necessity for asking anything like cap in hand for this treaty. And he thought when his hon. friend approached the Government at Washington as he did, and urged upon them in his vigorous and earnest manner and with all the arguments in this book, that he showed his anxiety too much, that he really fell into the error mentioned in the speech of the right

hon. gentleman (the leader of the Opposition) as a not impossible event. He thought that what the Hon. Mr. Brown had said to the House, and what was said in this pamphlet, both combined to show that the hon. gentleman pursued at Washington a course which was too eager, and which did not truly and clearly reflect the disposition of the people of Canada, which was to approach the Government of the United States as on a matter of fair business and on equal terms and not in any way to beg a favor at their hands. When the hon. gentleman went beyond that, he went beyond what was really the feeling of the people of this Dominion. He dare say the hon. gentleman did not believe that he went cap in hand; but such was the impression that was obtained from reading the statements contained in the book alluded to, and from hearing from the hon. gentleman the narrative of his proceeding at Washington. The arguments, too, that had been used by the hon. gentleman in order to induce their neighbors to look favorably on the treaty were not, in his opinion, likely to succeed. In them he endeavored to show that the Americans would have by far the best of the treaty, but he hardly thought that was the way to influence them in favor of the negotiation, for the Americans would certainly think that the advantages of the treaty to Canada must have been very great if they took so much trouble for its renewal. Since the abrogation of the treaty, argued the hon. gentleman, in 1854, the trade returns, which a little before that time had fallen off, had increased to a large extent with other countries, and in the course of a few years Canada stood in a better position than ever. The same argument was applied to the drug export, which apparently showed that Canada did not want the treaty at all; and how the hon. gentleman expected the Americans to swallow that line of argument and act upon it, he was somewhat at a loss to conceive. But it hardly seemed to him to be an argument which should be addressed to a Government so intelligent and so keen as that of the Americans. Objections were taken to this treaty by many persons and many parties in Canada, notably by the Do-