

As a measure of necessity the proceedings were secret, but it was decided that no active part should be taken in the organisation of the Detroit Convention, nor in the decisions which it should arrive at, except to influence them by the irresistible logic of facts, for the reason that two parties in the States were at issue as to the policy of the Treaty, one for, another against its continuation.

Any action on the part of the Delegates, while it might give a momentary preponderance to the party most favourable to their interests, would militate strongly against its final success, by affording its opponents an opportunity for complaining of an unfair victory, gained by foreign influence, and would involve the Provincial Delegates and the cause they advocated in the interminable political intrigues which would naturally surround this question.

The fruit of this policy is to be found in the conclusion the Convention arrived at, the powerless attempt of the enemies of Reciprocal trade having hastened the decision at which the unbiassed judgment of the commercial class in the United States unanimously arrived, and which would have been greatly prejudiced in the minds of the people of that country, if secured by the votes of Provincial delegates.

A very full report of the proceedings of this Convention has been sent to each Board of Trade: its contents are as follows :—