

“Resolved, That in the event of the negotiations of  
 “a Treaty of Reciprocity between the United States and  
 “the British North American Provinces, our Government  
 “should be careful to receive in such treaty a guarantee  
 “of a sufficient depth of water to enable screw steamers  
 “of not less than one thousand tons carrying capacity to  
 “pass from Port Colborne, C. W., to tide water.”

A minority report on the same subject was introduced, opposing all reference to the Reciprocity Treaty, but this was subsequently withdrawn and the first passed, omitting the terms a “military necessity,” that being a matter upon which, as commercial men, they would express no opinion.

The Reciprocity Committee then, by a vote of 17 to 3, reported in favor of the principle.

Much discussion took place among the American Delegates in the Convention during the first two days, marked by strong opposition to the Treaty; the conflicting interests of competing sections of the country were continually at issue, while the spirit and language of a large number was clearly hostile to us as the subjects of another, and as some rudely stated a “hostile government,” whose country had been built up at the expense of their own. During these discussions the Colonial Delegates were silent, and from a reliable quarter we learned that the vote on Reciprocity, had it been taken at the close of the second day, would have been 86½ against and 64½ for. Before the vote was taken on the transit resolutions, the Hon. MALCOLM CAMERON, of Quebec, spoke, and replied with powerful effect to the charges against us, creating a very favorable impression, and causing to be put *under* the table a resolution by a Delegate from Iowa to this effect:

“Resolved, That our experience of the thing called  
 “‘Reciprocity’ in trade with the United States and British  
 “Provinces, convinces us that a very large balance of  
 “benefits has accrued against the people of the United