

avements on this point, in Congress and elsewhere, cannot be examined here; and we barely remark that *we* entertain the hope of effecting an adjustment even with this Colony. But, failing to make a satisfactory arrangement with Canada, we may still save our fisheries, and continue the free importation of the productions of the sea, the soil, the mine, and the quarry, which now come to us, as by a natural law, from New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland.

In a word, a *revision* of the treaty should be attempted; failing in the endeavor, we have *abrogation* as the last resort. Such is the judgment we venture to pronounce, after long and careful reflection upon the advantages and evils of "Reciprocity."

Finally: it is our duty as citizens to believe that those who control our public affairs act calmly and wisely in the premises. The purpose ostensibly is to obtain revenue. Duty on the productions of the Colonies may and may not result in gain in this particular. The Government is now, and for an indefinite period must continue to be, an enormous purchaser of the principal necessities of life. A tax, ordinarily, enhances the price of commodities, and competition, as a rule, lessens the cost to the consumer. The law of demand and supply is universal and inexorable. On a question of revenue, these points are worthy of attention.

Again. Modern history shows nothing more universally or conclusively than that smuggling originates either in prohibitions in commercial intercourse, or in high duties. Articles of necessity, and indeed of luxury, have been sought by illicit means whenever among adventurers there has been hope of profit. Example is found at the present moment in the persons who "run the blockade" on the sea, and in those who evade the