

Still now, in the face of this fish duty, the steady growth in the value of our Atlantic fisheries proceeded. In 1909-1910, they were worth as follows:—Nova Scotia, \$8,081,111; New Brunswick, \$4,676,315; Prince Edward Island, \$1,197,556. Our whole catch totalled \$29,629,169.

#### BAD BARGAINING.

Mr. Jameson further pointed out that the effect of the *modus vivendi* had been that "thousands of dollars of Canadian money was invested in United States fishing vessels and hundreds of fishermen from our Maritime Provinces went into these United States vessels and prosecuted the fisheries from United States ports." This is what happened under the *modus vivendi* only. But if we are to merge the two markets, Mr. Jameson is confident that still more of our money will go into their ships and still more of our fishermen into their crews. This is a matter in which every farmer in Canada is interested; for these fishermen eat farm produce—they form a part of our Home Market. It might be explained that, under the "*modus vivendi*", American fishermen were granted licenses at \$1.50 a ton, which permitted them to enter Canadian ports for the purpose of purchasing ice, bait, and supplies, for the transhipment of their catch, and for the shipping of their crews. The effect of these licenses to United States fishermen was to give to

the United States vessels all the privileges in Canadian ports which the Canadian fishermen had, with the solitary exception of the sale of their fish duty free, and, of course, the United States vessels also had in the United States ports all the privileges which belonged to them as United States vessels.

Incidentally, Mr. Jameson showed what poor bargainers our Ministers were. They gave practically "free fishing." That is, they substituted the nominal license fee of \$1.00 a vessel for the old license fee of \$1.50 per ton which now averages \$125 a vessel for the American craft that have these licenses. They got, in exchange, the obvious and bare item of "free fish"—something our fishermen wanted years ago but are not so sure about now—but they did not get the relaxation of unfair American regulations which practically nullify all the so-called advantages. Thus they should have obtained the right for our fishermen to clear direct for the fishing grounds after landing their fares at American ports; and they should also have compelled the removal of the absurd law which prevents a Canadian-built fishing vessel from being sold to American fishermen. We do not want to sell many; but we do not want to be debarred from doing so when it is convenient and profitable. Uncle Sam can generally be trusted to put "a little joker" in his tariff regulations which keeps the nation he is bargaining with from getting too much.

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## Pulp Wood or Paper, which will we Sell?

One of the most dangerous clauses in the Reciprocity agreement is one of the most innocent in appearance. It is that dealing with wood pulp and paper. It proposes to establish unrestricted free trade in pulp, and in paper up to four cents a pound in value, when, and only when, our Provincial Governments shall remove their present restrictions on the exportation of pulp wood from Crown Lands.

As we read this last proviso we settle back comfortably in our chairs. Our Provincial Governments are on guard; and, indeed, the Government of New Brunswick has just joined the other Governments with forests to save, in prohibiting the export of unmanufactured timber. The Federal Government may agree to turn our forests over to the Americans if it likes to so show its generosity; but, luckily, it has no power to do anything of the sort. The forests are the care of the Provinces.

But what do you imagine the Americans put that clause in the agreement for? Was it merely to fill up? Is it simply to get a concession which does not concede that Mr. John Norris and his American Newspaper Publishers' Association have been keeping up a costly campaign in favor of this treaty? Admittedly, their sole interest in the business is to get cheaper paper by securing the admission of Canadian pulp wood and wood pulp from Crown lands to their paper mills. Now, this agreement does not give them that—does not

give them anything of value. Yet they are fighting for it by a newspaper campaign seldom seen equalled in the United States. Why?

Because this agreement carries the first line of our defences.

It wins the approval of the Dominion Government; it ties our hands and settles forever the fear that we might impose an export duty on pulp wood; and it exposes our Provincial Legislatures to the full force of the American "lobby," backed by the moral support of our own Dominion Ministers.

It is a long stride toward success, though it does not at present open a single acre of Crown forest land.

This question is a serious one for the Canadian farmer. The paper business is a natural native industry which Canada should have in the future without the necessity of protecting it in any manner. It is, in fact, one of the industries of which Canada can have the monopoly on this Continent.

We have the forests; we have the water-powers; we have the labor. The Americans have nearly depleted their pulp forests. To-day, their pulp wood brings so high a price that the paper-users of the United States are in open revolt, and had no little to do with stampeding President Taft into opening these negotiations. Republican and Democratic newspapers unite in crying for cheaper paper—for begging, buying or stealing access to the Canadian storehouses of pulp wood.