

Majesty's Secretary of State for the colonial department, from the Governor-General of Canada; from which it appears, "that the Council of the Dominion are of the opinion that the present is a most favorable opportunity for a renewal of negotiations for a reciprocity treaty between Great Britain and the United States," etc.; and "informing Sir Edward that her Majesty's government are ready to make the proposals which the Council desire, and they now authorize you to propose to the United States government to enter into a treaty to renew the third article of the reciprocity treaty of 1854; with a provision for preserving in force articles twenty-second to twenty-fifth of the treaty of Washington, in case the arrangement now proposed should fail to be carried out within a limited time, to be fixed for that purpose."

When was diplomacy ever so rapid as this? On the 23d Mr. Brown and Mr. Mackenzie suggest to the Privy Council of Canada the idea of making an effort for a renewal of reciprocity. The Governor-General transmits the idea to London with lightning speed, and by the 26th, when the Secretary of State for the colonial department probably dictated his letters, which would bear date the 27th, he had given the grave and complicated subject such mature consideration that he was able to communicate the basis of just such a treaty as Mr. George Brown and the other members of the Privy Council had thought of. Let no one hereafter say that British diplomacy is slow and crafty, or regard Dickens' description of the circumlocution office as anything else than a libellous caricature! In view of these facts, is there room to doubt that Mr. George Brown's inspiration came from the British government? Where had he observed facts indicating that that was a most favorable opportunity for a renewal of negotiations for a reciprocity treaty between the United States and the Dominion?

"He has eyes full sharp I ween  
Who sees what is not to be seen."

Had not you and I as good opportunities as he for ascertaining whether the public opinion of this country desired a renewal of reciprocity? What statesman had brought forward any such proposition? What community had agitated the question? Was it the subject of discussion in the daily or other journals of the country? No, none of these things had taken place, and the unbroken current of events showed that the American people were hostile to such a project. Congress had availed itself of the earliest opportunity to give notice of the termination of the treaty of 1854; and its action had been approved by the entire country. In