

to affirm strongly our approval of that principle. Whatever our objections may be to the Draft Treaty now before us, we at least ought to be positive—we ought to give no uncertain sound upon the question of reciprocity (hear! hear!)—we must do that in order to be consistent with ourselves, and in order to be consistent with what is right. This general proposition can be followed by any resolution that may be moved with reference to particular parts of the treaty. I beg to say further, that I hope there will be no backwardness on the part of the representatives present, in expressing their views fully on this subject, and hope there will be no disposition to shirk the question. It is due to the country that the commercial men assembled here, give no equivocal expression to their opinions. The country looks to this body for some information and guidance on this important question.

Mr. WM. HARTY, (Kingston,) seconded the motion.

Mr. WM. ELDER, (St. John)—I could have greatly wished that some gentleman representing larger interests than myself in Trade, Commerce and Manufactures, the matters to be affected by the proposed Treaty, had offered to you a resolution fitted to interpret the sentiments of this Board and of the people of Canada on this great question; but as no such resolution has been placed before you, I shall venture to offer one, and shortly to commend it to your adoption. My objection to the motion before the Board is that it is colorless, and furnishes no indication of the views entertained by the members of this Board as to the character of the proposed Treaty. (Hear, hear.) And in so far as Mr. Trout illustrated his position by reference to facts, would it not be easy to point out a simpler process of meeting the difficulty? He says that Ontario sends barley across the United States frontier, while Ohio sends back coal, and that such exchanges should be encouraged. Undoubtedly they should, Sir; but as Ohio coal comes free into Canada, let the United States just take off the duty placed on Canadian grains, and the whole thing will be settled. [Applause.] But to return: when there was no Treaty before this Board it has frequently expressed a general approval of Reciprocity, in terms similar to those contained in the resolution of my friend Mr. Trout; now that a draft treaty is before the Board, ought we not to do something more than express our interest in the subject? Ought it to go forth to the world that we are perfectly satisfied with every part and parcel of that Treaty, if such is not the case, as I am well satisfied that it is not? (No, no, and cheers.) We rejoice, Sir, in the discussion of the question of Reciprocity, for a fair Treaty of Reciprocity between Canada and the United States cannot but prove mutually beneficial, (hear, hear); but in order to reach provisions that would be mutually satisfactory, the views entertained in both countries must be elicited and subjected to the test of criticism. I express this opinion the more freely, as the President of the United States, in transmitting the Treaty to the Senate, has invited the fullest criticism in regard to it. (Hear, hear.) He said in substance, "Gentlemen of the Senate, this is what the British Plenipotentiaries have agreed to on their part—this is

what they  
it is not a  
signed on b  
our necessi  
Treaty of  
contend tha  
*pro forma*,  
and that wh  
Press of the  
this country  
word to say  
can accept r  
in favor of  
which would  
of the great  
case, and thi  
beg leave to

1st.—That  
of Reciprocity

2nd.—That  
desirable provis  
tions between t  
privileges, it is  
are not nearly s  
means of a prop  
of Canada, tho  
prejudicially to

This Tre  
features. It  
privileges; w  
exchange of  
Treaty; is it  
(Hear, hear.)  
is not an eq  
and privileges  
lately given  
provided for  
which makes t  
the hypothetical  
respect. (Gr  
to dispose of  
themselves to  
leges the more  
and if they fail  
arising therefr  
hand, Sir, the  
influence to sec  
(Cheers.) An