

"States, would meet the latter on equal terms under the Reciprocity Bill,
 "and that western wheat growers would be injured by the competition
 "of Canadian wheat. Assuming, for the sake of argument, in order to
 "meet objections of every kind, that there is no surplus of breadstuffs
 "in the United States, and that the manufacturing districts of your
 "country and the Atlantic cities are likely to be the consumers both of
 "American and Canadian wheat, I am yet prepared to deny the sound-
 "ness of the argument, drawn from that fact, against the admission of
 "the latter. I affirm that the Canadian trade has created, and must con-
 "tinue to create, an increased demand for breadstuffs, quite equal to the
 "supply. If it be a fact, that prior to the removal of the differential
 "duties against the United States, Canada imported her sugars from
 "Cuba and Porto Rico, through the St. Lawrence direct, or *viâ* Halifax,
 "her teas from China direct, or *viâ* London, and that she consumed
 "English manufactures almost exclusively, then I would ask, whether
 "the change in the trade, owing to which Canada is now largely sup-
 "plied with these commodities by the United States manufacturers and
 "the merchants of the Atlantic cities, must not have increased the
 "demand for food in the United States. If an Ohio farmer were to
 "bring a thousand bushels of wheat to New York, to be exchanged for
 "groceries and domestic goods for his consumption, he would not
 "suffer any injury from the competition of a Canadian farmer
 "who wanted to effect a similar exchange; on the contrary, in pro-
 "portion to the number of such exchanges would the profits of the
 "merchants and forwarders be reduced, a large trade being conducted
 "more economically than a small one. I am persuaded, therefore, that
 "the exchange of Canadian agricultural products for domestic manufac-
 "tures, sugar, tea, coffee, tobacco, fruits, &c., so far from being injurious
 "to the interests of the Western farmers of the United States, is rather
 "calculated to benefit them; and I am persuaded firmly, moreover,
 "that should the Canadian trade be forced into other channels, as seems
 "not improbable, it will then be estimated at its true value by the
 "people of the United States. Though I have deemed it advisable to
 "discuss the question as if the United States had no surplus of bread-
 "stuffs to export, I think the more correct assumption would be, that
 "for many years the Western wheat-growers will have to compete with
 "Canada in the markets of the world on equal, and possibly on disad-
 "vantageous, terms. A reference to official documents will prove, that
 "the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward
 "Island, and Newfoundland, have been among the best customers of
 "the United States for breadstuffs. In those Provinces there are revenue
 "duties on flour varying from 25 cents to 75 cents per barrel. Within
 "the last year, arrangements have been effected by Canada with
 "three of those provinces, for a free interchange of their natural produc-
 "tions; and the experience of a single season induces me to believe
 "that a very large trade will be diverted to those provinces from the
 "city of New York, unless the present restrictions be removed. At the
 "very opening of the navigation last year, a steamer was chartered at
 "Toronto to take a cargo of flour to Halifax, and to bring back sugar,