

to our interest that her advances shall be met by a frank acceptance; but, meantime, no project for a delusive Reciprocity Treaty should be entertained for a moment; our former unsatisfactory experiment in that direction tended to the estrangement of two populations who are remarkably free from such animosities as often embitter the inhabitants of opposite sides of a frontier line, and whose real interests and aims are, to a great extent, intrinsically similar and accordant.

In a similarly broad spirit should our intercourse with Mexico be treated. That spacious and magnificently endowed region, capable of yielding to us all that has been hoped for from Cuba and Brazil, and of taking from us vast quantities of the various fabrics which we desire to sell, must soon, by an inevitable extension of railroads, be brought into intimate connection with this country. Her naturally not unfriendly people may be taught, by fair and profitable traffic, to forget the suspicions born of their disasters during our dark period of slaveholders' rule, and they also may propose a full and free commercial union of the basis of her adopting our tariff system in its entirety as towards all other countries, and abrogating the customs frontier between us. If this should be asked under circumstances which would guarantee the sufficiency and integrity of her customs service, might it not be granted, and might not our vast existing area of absolute Free Trade be thus extended to the still wider proportions of the North American Continent?

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A Business View of the Situation.—To intelligently discuss the very grave subject of the situation, when bankruptcy is doing its frightful work all over the land; when values of all descriptions have fallen 50 to 75 per cent. within a few years; when millions of the people's money have been swept from existence; when no prospects of better times are in sight, there is no