

delegates from the United States, which was held at St. John's, New Brunswick, on the 18th instant, for the purpose of considering the advantages, or otherwise, of the proposed Canadian and United States Reciprocity Treaty.

The sense of the meeting seems to have been adverse to the Treaty.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. G. WATSON.

Inclosure in No. 443.

*Extract from the "New York Tribune" of July 24, 1874.*

*Reciprocity with Canada.*—Action of the Dominion Board of Trade—The Treaty held to be one not advantageous for Canada—The Dominion Government to be memorialized for its Withdrawal or Amendment—Objections to its Provisions.

(From an occasional correspondent of the "Tribune.")

*St. John, N.B., July 18.*—The present week has been one of very great interest in St. John, having witnessed the assembling here of the Board of Trade of the Dominion of Canada, a body corresponding to the National Board of Trade of the United States. Delegates are in attendance from Windsor, Hamilton, Toronto, Ottawa, Kingston, Montreal, Quebec, St. John, Charlottetown—in fact from every important town in the Canadas and the Provinces of New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Nova Scotia. These Delegates are, in most cases, officers of the Boards of Trade in their respective cities, and a number of them are closely connected with political life. Altogether about fifty of these Representatives of the commercial and manufacturing interests of the New Dominion are present, and they comprise a body of men of unusual intelligence and sagacity, and of extraordinary influence on the future of Canada. This meeting attracted attention, and seemed to possess unusual importance from two facts. First, that the circular calling it announced as the first and most prominent subject of consideration the new Treaty proposed between Canada and the United States; second, that invitations were extended to the National Board of Trade of the United States to send Delegates to the St. John's meeting. The inference was at once drawn by politicians on both sides that this was a scheme to manufacture public opinion in favour of the Treaty, and to devise ways and means to promote its ratification. Nothing could have been further from the truth, as the result has proved. The American Delegates were T. C. Hersey of Portland, B. F. Nourse of Boston, John Austin Stevens, jr., of New York, Captain E. P. Dorr of Buffalo, R. Hawley of Detroit, and W. E. Smith of Milwaukee. On Thursday, the 16th instant, the Dominion Board of Trade adjourned over until 10 o'clock to-day, having allotted Thursday evening and the entire day of Friday to the enjoyment of hospitalities extended to them by the Board of Trade and citizens of St. John, and by the Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick. Promptly at 10 o'clock to-day the full Board of Trade of the Dominion met, with the President, W. H. Howland, in the chair. The American Delegates were assigned prominent seats in the hall. The subject of the meeting, the Reciprocity Treaty, having been announced, the debate began, and the true purpose of the Convention was at once manifest. It was not to promote the success or the rejection of the Treaty, but to gather expressions of opinion from intelligent business men of every part of the Dominion as to the practical bearing of the proposed Treaty. The Delegates took up, analyzed, and discussed its various provisions from their point of view, showing wherein it would prove advantageous and wherein prejudicial to them. The speakers came from every quarter, from Ontario, Montreal, Quebec, St. John, from the chief commercial and manufacturing points of all the Provinces. And while there was no dissent from the opinion that reciprocal trade relations with the United States were very desirable for both countries, and while every sentiment towards the people of the United States was very friendly and cordial, there was almost unbroken unanimity in the expression of opinion that the proposed Treaty, lately negotiated at Washington, and submitted by the President to the Senate, is very unequal and unfair, and would work great injury to the interests of Canada. The discussion, conducted in brief, business-like speeches limited to 15 minutes each, was continued from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M., with an intermission of only one hour; and at the conclusion resolutions were adopted almost unanimously declaring that while a Reciprocity Treaty with the United States is desired by Canada, the pending Treaty is very objectionable in many important particulars, and the Dominion Government is to be memorialized by the Board of Trade to seek the withdrawal or