

In inaugurating the National Policy of 1879, which had become an essential part of public policy in Canada if we were to have any great national industries, the Government of Sir John Macdonald did not overlook their traditional good-will towards the United States and towards fair reciprocal relations.

Therefore the Customs Act of 1879, chapter 15, section 6, contained the following enactment :

"Any or all of the following articles, that is to say: Animals of all kinds, green fruit, hay, straw, bran, seeds of all kinds, vegetables (including potatoes and roots), plants, trees and shrubs, coal and coke, salt, hops, wheat, peas and beans, barley, rye, oats, Indian corn, buckwheat and all other grain, flour of wheat and flour of rye, Indian meal and oatmeal, and flour or meal of any other grain, butter, cheese, fish (salted or smoked), lard, tallow, meats (fresh, salted or smoked), and lumber, may be imported into Canada free of duty, or at less rate of duty than is provided by this act, upon proclamation of the Governor-in-Council, which may be issued whenever it appears to his satisfaction that similar articles from Canada may be imported into the United States free of duty, or at a rate of duty not exceeding that payable on the same under such proclamation when imported into Canada."

In 1887, when Sir Charles Tupper was at Washington, he made a formal proposal once more to the Government of the United States, a copy of which is given here in full :—

[COPY.]

(36 A.)

Of the statement presented by the British Plenipotentiaries to the Fisheries Commission at Washington, in relation to reciprocal trade relations between Canada and the United States, and the answer of the American Plenipotentiaries thereto.

Sir Charles Tupper begged leave therefore formally to hand in the following proposal from the British Plenipotentiaries :—

That with the view of removing all cause of difference in connection with the fisheries, it is proposed by Her Majesty's Plenipotentiaries that the fishermen of both countries shall have all the privileges enjoyed during the existence of the Fishery Articles of the Treaty of Washington, in consideration of a mutual arrangement providing for greater freedom of commercial intercourse between the United States and Canada and Newfoundland.