

## The Cause of its Resurrection.

Considering the fact that reciprocity was thus cast aside years ago by both parties as something undesirable for Canada, it is interesting to consider why it has jumped into such prominence just now. What brought it to life? Whence its resurrection?

To find the cause we must study United States history. The Republican party had pledged itself to a revision of the tariff downward. There was need enough of this for it had reached 45 per cent on an average of dutiable goods, nearly double our Canadian tariff of 26 per cent.

The Republican party didn't keep their promise and the people turned them out and put in their place the Democrats who had pledged themselves to decrease the duties, especially upon natural products and food stuffs, and they have already given proof that they intend to do it by the introduction in Congress of the so-called "Farmers Free List."

President Taft knew this. He wanted the credit of doing it for himself and his party. He didn't wait for the Democrats to do it.

He invited the Canadian premier and his ministers to dine with him at Washington. The premier couldn't go but he sent two of his ministers. They dined with the president and he poured into their ears the advantages of reciprocity.

What had so often been denied Canada in the past was now freely offered.

Our ministers expected little but they were offered much. They had failed to reckon with the political necessities of the president and his party.

The demands of Uncle Sam's people for a lower tariff on food-stuffs were so insistent that either the Republicans or the Democrats were bound to give us just what our ministers received.

But, if the president could get a quid pro quo, so much the better for the president and his party. Hence his generosity.

This generosity on his part and that of his ministers was overwhelming. Freely our ministers received and freely they gave in return, until they came back with a proposal which affects \$95,000,000 of our products, a proposition that affects the fiscal interchange of all our dairy products, animals, grains, natural food products, vegetable products, mineral products, all our fish products except sardines, pulp and paper and much of our lumber.