

defend the rights of Canada. The Imperial Government having given us the right of self-government, has also conferred upon us the right to regulate our local duties as we wish. The Conservatives of Lower Canada do not wish to act against the interests of England, but they have the right, if they wish, to regulate the duties, irrespective of England, if it is Canada's interest to do so."

Mr. Masson declares that his compatriots are Canadians first and Britishers afterwards, and that they intend to support what is best for Canada, irrespective of Great Britain's wishes and interests. That is precisely the position occupied by the Canadian advocates of reciprocity.

#### ADVANTAGES TO BOTH COUNTRIES.

The advantages to be derived from complete freedom of commercial intercourse between the United States and Canada must be obvious to any one who will take the trouble to look at the position of the two countries. The natural course of trade is from North to South. The Dominion and the United States are the natural markets each of the other. Not only would unrestricted reciprocity settle satisfactorily all outstanding disputes with regard to the fisheries, canal privileges, and export duties, and remove all sources of irritation and ill-feeling between two kindred nations, but it would give an immense impetus to trade between the two countries, thus furnishing increased business for railways and waterways. Even under existing conditions the United States has a trade with Canada greater, in proportion, to the Dominion's population, than with any other country. The average Canadian buys more American products than the average man of any other nationality on the globe. Canada's trade with the United States is nearly one-half of her entire trade with the world, and the trade of the United States with Canada is only exceeded in volume by the trade with Great Britain, France and Germany.