

000 by a few long-headed patriotic Yankees* to secure it. At that time, where Lowell now stands, was a meadow; and numberless other localities which were either meadows or barren hills, now sustain, through that tariff, millions of busy operatives and rich manufacturers, surrounded by the then poor but now wealthy farmers of their country.

Our Legislators, either not wise enough to learn or to profit by the lesson they could or should have learned of the Yankees, allowed them to flood our country with their manufactures and produce, over a nominal tariff of 12 per cent. only. The result was, that prosperity prevailed in the States and stagnation ruled in Canada.

The 'theoretical Legislators' and politicians of Canada got up, or rather imported the old 'huc and cry'—first used by a German mountebank to swindle a crowd he had gathered by it out of their money—of '*buy in the cheapest and sell in the dearest market,*' and argued from the idea thus inculcated, that the prosperity in the States arose from their farmers being paid more for their wheat and wool, and better prices for their lumber. That if Canadian farmers and lumberers could sell in the United States markets, upon equal terms with the people there, an equal tide of prosperity would flow over our land.

Those better informed—judging by the results—and more thoroughly acquainted with commercial, manufacturing, agricultural, political and national prosperity, recommended and argued the necessity of raising our tariff from 12 per cent. to the same level as that of the United States, that thereby we would secure

equal prosperity with them. Those opposed to Reciprocity also argued that, as it was of no advantage for one farmer to sell his produce to a neighbor farmer and to take his produce for pay, and no advantage for one manufacturer to exchange his goods with another manufacturer in the same line of business; that the same procedure on the part of two different neighboring countries, similarly situated, commercially and agriculturally, could not be mutually advantageous; that as the Yankees were also an agricultural people, who from natural causes could raise cereals and live stock cheaper than we could, especially on their Western prairies, and from their superior facilities and immensely greater production, would be able, whenever it was to their interests, to flood Canada with their farm produce as they then did with their manufactures, and thus in the end as seriously injure our farmers as they already had our Canadian manufacturers. On the other hand, those in favor of the treaty utterly ignored the idea that any one could manufacture in Canada, boldly asserting that we were unable, incapable and unfitted for manufacturing for ourselves; that Yankee manufacturers could furnish us with goods better and cheaper than Canadian manufacturers would ever supply them. Then repeating their 'huc and cry' of selling in the 'dearest and buying in the cheapest' market, never considered it worth their while to endeavor to discern or discover which, in the long run, would be the cheapest or dearest market for them, but followed on after their blind leaders until they had reached the bottom of the 'ditch,' and found themselves in company with a flood of bankrupts, whom they helped to drag down to utter ruin.

On the 7th of August, 1858, a new era dawned upon our country; the sun of our national prosperity began to illuminate the midnight darkness,

* The early New England settlers conquered a noble and powerful tribe of Indians called the Yankoes, then contracting the name to Yankee, assumed it in place of New Englanders. We do not use it in an invidious sense at all, only from its more clearly designating that people than the name American, which cannot properly be exclusively allowed to them.