

RECIPROCITY TREATY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

Regarding the so-called reciprocity treaty now pending before the Senate of the United States as one of the most important measures ever submitted to that body, I cheerfully comply with the request of the representatives of the manufacturing and industrial interests of Philadelphia to express my views upon it; and without detaining you with preliminary remarks will proceed at once to the consideration of the subject.

The Source of British Supremacy.

The story of the British army and navy is a continuous page of glory, the lustre of which is rarely dimmed by a cloud even such as those our fathers cast upon it by their success in achieving the independence of the colonies, and during the war of 1812. Yet in no sense has England made her chief or most remunerative conquests by means of her army and navy. Diplomacy is the instrumentality by which these have been achieved; and should the treaty now pending be ratified and submitted to by the American people it would, though her representatives would have us believe that it is simply a measure providing for a reciprocal treaty between the Dominion of Canada and the United States, be the grandest and most profitable of her diplomatic conquests. The Imperial government, so they would make us believe, does but consent that the Canadian government may propose to the government of the United States the terms of such a treaty, and that its minister at Washington, as an act of grace towards the provinces, may conduct negotiations relating thereto, in conjunction with a representative of Canada. Meanwhile we are not to be permitted to know that England is the party supremely interested, and the only one of the contracting parties to whose honor and profit the treaty will redound.