

that market that we do a trade of nearly \$250,000 a day with them, notwithstanding the obstructions. Shall we do it freely and so in increased volume and with greater profit, or must it continue to decrease in quantity and become still less profitable? If there is any one thing certain it would seem to be that we cannot get reciprocity limited to natural products only; if we could it would only be a partial benefit. It would help our producers immensely, but it would not enable them to buy manufactured goods much cheaper, and would not add to our manufacturers market save as it would be added to by the benefit done the producer.

The thirteen Eastern States surrounding us all manufacture largely in excess of their consumption of manufactured goods. The great agricultural States of the West find in them their best market for large quantities of their produce and in exchange take the product of the factory and mill. In Canada, after all our efforts, import over \$60,000,000 worth a year of manufactured goods and export less than \$4,000,000 worth. The same reason that has made Massachusetts grow 450,000 in ten years as against Quebec's 130,000 is the answer. Massachusetts has the market; we have not. But it is said they have all the factories they want, there would be no room for ours. Not so. They have to build new or add to old factories every three years to an extent equal to our whole manufacturing plant. There is plenty of room and will be more. British capital following the flag would seek Canadian towns and cities, rather than as now go in constant millions into the various States.

Germany, Austria and Italy can enter into a commercial alliance without anyone dreaming that they are thereby losing their political independence. Perhaps we cannot get unrestricted reciprocity, but we can try. There cannot be an acceptance without a proposal. It is meet and proper that the offer in this case should come from the smaller nation. It is not a matter of vital importance to them. It is I think to us. In private life it would be absurd not to seek so good a business customer. Freedom of trade helps everybody. It will help the United States, but would aid us much more than them. The time is fortuitous. The Democrats of Ohio unanimously declared in favor of unrestricted reciprocity with us without any protest from the party generally.

"Reciprocity" is in the air. It is Mr. Blaine's hobby.

See these three telegrams clipped from one issue.

New York, Dec. 14.—A Washington dispatch to the Tribune says: It is understood the reciprocity negotiations with the sugar-producing colonies of Great Britain in the West Indies, authorized by section 3 of the McKinley Bill, have reached a satisfactory conclusion in every case except that of Jamaica. The conventions agreed upon to involve Trinidad and the Barbadoes, together with those of Demarara, in British Guiana. In case of Jamaica, it is believed the only difficulty is presented by the amount of revenue which that colony is asked to relinquish.