

treaty of 1854, which gave them free access to this market for their surplus natural products, of which we produce a surplus in excess of the home demand and are compelled to export, without permitting the admission into their limited market of the product of our manufactories, except upon payment of a high customs duty. They have never contributed one dollar to create, maintain, or defend our market—and will not so long as Canada remains a British colony. Why then should we grant them valuable commercial privileges which we would not grant to England, France, or Germany?

Mr. Seward, as secretary of state in Mr. Lincoln's cabinet, gave notice of the abrogation of the treaty of 1854 in 1864, and declined to consider a renewal. President Grant declined, at the request of the Hon. George Brown, Special Commissioner from Canada to the United States, to urge upon Congress a treaty of reciprocity upon terms more favorable to the United States than that of 1854, because it would delay a final settlement of our relations to Canada, and of hers to Great Britain. Mr. Brown expended a large sum of money in this country to create a public sentiment favorable to a renewal of reciprocity, but without avail.

Mr. Blaine, as secretary of state, declined even to consider a commercial treaty with Canada which did not include the admission into Canada, free of duty, of a large line of our manufactured products. Negotiations were first begun by England for the free admission of the surplus natural products of Canada into our market in 1816. All advances were repelled until the slave power in 1854 forced the treaty of 1854 upon Congress, and President Pierce to allay the desire of the Canadian people for annexation, and thus prevent the admission of several more free states into the Union. It may be confidently asserted, that no treaty with Great Britain, for the free admission of the natural products of her Canadian provinces into this country, would ever have been seriously considered by the government of the United States had it not been for the influence of the pro slavery party.

Continental union involves a final settlement of all questions