

should the Government of the United States comply with the wishes of the United States National Board of Trade, the subject will receive the fullest consideration of the Government of Canada. The United States National Board of Trade in 1872 had petitioned Congress for a renewal of reciprocal trade relations with Canada; and the Dominion Board of Trade had brought this fact to the notice of the Government of Canada.

"In 1874, Mr. George Brown, at the instance of the Mackenzie Government, which, by its minute of council, declared its belief that a most favorable opportunity was presented for a renewal of negotiations for a reciprocity treaty, was sent as a commissioner to Washington, and, in conjunction with Sir Edward Thornton, after a good deal of discussion, negotiated a draft treaty of reciprocity. But the President did not even allude to it by message, nor did the Senate of the United States, a thing within the scope of its authority, ratify or even deign to discuss it.

#### THE FAILURE OF GEORGE BROWN'S ATTEMPT

in 1874 had such an effect on Mr. Mackenzie's Government that during the remainder of its term it made no further attempt in that direction. In 1875, when Mr. Wallace asked if the Government intended to renew negotiations, Mr. Mackenzie replied: 'We will always be ready to negotiate for a reciprocity treaty with any nation.' In inaugurating the national policy of 1879, which had become an essential part of public policy in Canada, if it were to have any great national industries, the Government of Sir John Macdonald did not overlook their traditional good-will towards the United States and towards fair reciprocal relations. Therefore, the Customs Act of 1879, chapter 15, section 6, contained a special enactment still favoring reciprocity on a liberal scale. No answer was made to that offer. In 1887, when Sir Charles Tupper was at Washington, he made a formal proposal once more to the Government of the United States for a mutual arrangement providing for greater freedom of commercial intercourse between the United States and Canada and Newfoundland. Mr. Bayard's reply was a flat refusal. It will thus be seen that the position assumed by Canada has from the first been thoroughly consistent and continuously favorable to the adoption and maintenance of

#### A JUST AND REASONABLE MEASURE OF RECIPROCITY

with the United States. This has been shown: 1. In the address of 1847. 2. In the act passed in 1849, in the Customs enactment of statutory offences, in 1868, 1879, and 1888; and in the speedy ratification by our Parliament of the treaties of 1854, 1871 and 1888. 3. In the repeated efforts made by Canada for the continuance of the old treaty of 1854, and, after its abrogation, for the renewal of reciprocal relations on a fair and equitable basis. This exposé establishes that, in Canada, we all agree on the necessity of establishing closer commercial relations between the two countries. The disagreement begins on the means to attain that desirable object. The only party who has not shown his willingness to do anything, but whose consent is all-important in the matter, is Brother Jonathan, who must laugh in his sleeve at the sight of our struggle, if he has made up his mind