

advantage to the extensive lumber interest in the North Eastern portion of the Union, and that the repeal of the New Brunswick export duty on American lumber floated down that river would be but an act of justice to the lumbermen of that quarter, upon whom it pressed severely.

“That without a free participation in the fisheries near the shores of the Colonies, the American deep-sea fisheries in that region would become valueless.

“That it would be wise to place the border trade between the United States and the Colonies on a different basis, and under the influence of a higher principle, so as to mature and perfect a complete system of mutual exchanges between the different sections of this vast continent—an achievement not only wise and advantageous, but worthy of the high civilization of the country.”

After much correspondence between the Governments interested, and many debates in the American and Colonial Legislatures, in which some opposition to freedom of trade was shown by the Pennsylvania manufacturers and the Maine lumber interest, and much opposition to admit Americans to the coast fisheries was displayed by the Maritime Provinces, the British Government gave the Earl of Elgin full powers to negotiate a treaty in accordance with these views, and Mr. W. L. Marcy having been named plenipotentiary by the President of the United States, the Reciprocity Treaty was drawn up. (a) It was “done in triplicate at Washington, on

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(a) The Reciprocity Treaty consists of seven articles :

*Article I* gives the inhabitants of the United States, in common with the subjects of Her Britannic Majesty, the liberty to take fish, of every kind except shell fish, on the sea coasts and shores, and in the bays, harbours and creeks of the British North American Provinces.

*Article II* gives similar privileges to British subjects in American waters.

*Article III* stipulates that the following articles, being the growth and produce of the British Colonies or the United States, shall be admitted into each country respectively, free of duty :

Grain, Flour and Breadstuffs of all kinds ; Animals of all kinds ; Fish, smoked and salted meats ; Cotton, wool, seeds and vegetables ; Undried fruits, dried fruits ; Fish of all kinds ; Products of fish, and all other creatures living in the water ; Poultry and eggs ; Hides, furs, skins or tails, undressed ; Stone or marble in its crude or unwrought state ; Slate ; Butter, cheese, tallow ; Lard, horns, manures ; Ores of metals of all kinds ; Coal ; Pitch, tar, turpentine, ashes ; Timber and lumber of all kinds, round,