

Canadian soil free of duty, provided the Provincial Legislature is prepared to admit the products of the United States on the same terms. In Canada, public opinion is decidedly in favour of the adoption of such a policy, but as no diplomatic relations exist between the two countries, it is necessary that the negotiation for carrying it into effect should be conducted by Her Majesty's Imperial Government. As no injury can be inflicted on British interests by such an arrangement, it may be hoped that Her Majesty's Government will endeavour to carry out the wishes of the entire Canadian population; and as an equally strong opinion is entertained, that for the interests of Canada, and with a view of preserving the trade by the St. Lawrence, it is necessary that the navigation of that river should be thrown open to all nations; and as such a policy would be not less advantageous to the United States than to Canada, it seems highly probable that a most advantageous commercial treaty could be effected between the two countries. The basis of such a treaty should be the free navigation of the St. Lawrence, and the reciprocal free admission of all articles of food into Canada and the United States. The importance of giving immediate attention to this subject cannot be over-estimated. The Canadian Legislature confidently expects that the Administration will be able to show, at the next session, that no exertions have been spared on their part to effect an object so much desired by the people. Should Her Majesty's Government see fit to empower the Minister at Washington to open negotiations with a view of giving effect to the measures herein recommended, it is most respectfully suggested, that the Minister might be empowered to communicate freely with the Governor-general of Canada on the subject, which is the more necessary, as the consent of the Canadian Parliament to any measures determined on would be required.

The Inspector-general would respectfully state, in conclusion, that great dissatisfaction will be felt in Canada, unless the Administration is prepared to show, at the next session of the Provincial Parliament, that it has used its best endeavours to obtain the concurrence of the Imperial Government and of the United States, to measures which are universally desired by the Canadian people.

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