

During the present year a leading member of the Dominion board of trade, at its annual meeting, expressed the general sentiment of those who were present by saying, "We are anxious to deal fairly and liberally with our neighbors, and on condition that they meet us in a liberal spirit." A resolution was passed, declaring "that this board is of opinion that it is very desirable that a treaty of reciprocity in trade with the United States, on a comprehensive, liberal, and fair basis, should be obtained;" and is also of opinion that the initiatory steps thereto ought to come from the Government of the United States, seeing that it was by their action that the old treaty was abrogated." Thus there is ample proof that commissioners would be promptly appointed to meet and confer with our own.

While we now possess a most valuable market and increasing market for our manufactures, it is quite as certain that its continuance depends on the duties levied by the Canadian tariff. A large proportion of the manufactures we export so extensively to the Dominion, conspicuously many of iron, copper, brass, lead, cotton, &c., are admitted free of duty or at almost nominal rates of 5 or 10 per cent., and those charged at higher rates than $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. are few in number and insignificant in quantity. The Canadians have it in their power, and it could be no just cause of complaint by us, to adopt our own scale of duties. The effect of such a step could not fail to inflict serious injury on our manufacturers, many of whose products would soon be excluded from the Canadian markets, which it is for our interest to open yet more widely.

CONTRAST CANADIAN WITH HAWAIIAN TRADE.

The importance of our present and future commercial relations with the Hawaiian Islands has been ably discussed. I have not underestimated nor will I now depreciate it. But it shrinks into seeming insignificance in comparison with the value of the trade between the people of the United States and Canada. In the same year when our exports of cereal productions to the islands amounted to the value of about \$45,000 these to the Dominion were of the value of over fourteen millions, our exports of cotton and its manufactures to the islands were about \$16,000, and of iron and steel, including woodenware, were nearly \$20,000, while those of the same classes to Canada were over one million one hundred thousand and over six millions, respectively, exclusive of woodenware. The exports I have specified to Canada are exclusively of our own productions, the aggregate of which to Canada was about ninety times as large as that of all our exports to the Hawaiian Islands during the same time. Without pursuing the comparison further it is absolutely unquestionable that, if our commerce with the Hawaiian Islands is worthy of special attention, that with the Dominion of Canada is almost immeasurably more so; and the comparison loses nothing of its force either commer-