

in the United States are ready to establish branch houses in the Maritime Provinces to purchase Canadian fish. Hundreds of young men leave our shores every year to go to the United States to fish in American vessels. Why? There is only one answer: The fish taken by the American vessel is admitted free into the American market, while fish taken at the same time in a Canadian vessel would be subject to the American duty. In the present condition of affairs, there is thus great temptation to our young men to go to the United States. Many of them, I am happy to state, while engaging in the fishing business, retain their allegiance to our Sovereign and return to their homes in the Dominion. Many others, unfortunately, find the advantages of the American market so great that they break their connection with Canada and become citizens of the United States. Under this reciprocity agreement, it will be possible for our young men to engage in the fishing business in our own vessels under the British flag and yet enjoy all the advantages which have hitherto drawn our population away.

In former years when Porto Rico was a Spanish colony, we had a large trade with that island. When Porto Rico was acquired by the United States we lost that trade. The reciprocity agreement gives us the opportunity to recover to some extent the trade of the island. Under the agreement Canadian fish will be admitted free into Porto Rico.

THE ANNEXATION BOGEY.

Nothing more clearly shows the weakness of the case against reciprocity than the fact that our opponents have to resort to the device of waving the British flag and accusing the advocates of reciprocity of disloyalty. It is an old and well worn trick which will not deceive intelligent people. The glorious flag of the Empire was never intended to be used for so mean a purpose. Never were the people of