

STATE OF TRADE
WITH
THE NORTH AMERICAN PROVINCES.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
February 3, 1871.

SIR: I transmit for the information of the House of Representatives, the report of J. N. Larned, who was appointed special agent under a joint resolution of Congress approved June 23, 1870, to inquire into the extent and state of the trade between the United States and the several dependencies of Great Britain in North America.

Very respectfully,

GEO. S. BOUTWELL,
Secretary.

HON. JAMES G. BLAINE,
Speaker House of Representatives.

BUFFALO, *January 28, 1871.*

SIR: You intrusted to me, a few months ago, the task of collecting information in compliance with the joint resolution of Congress approved June 23, 1870, which directed that an inquiry should be made relative to the state of trade between the United States and the British North American Possessions. The subject is an important one, and I have endeavored to investigate it with as much thoroughness as the time allowed me would permit.

Between the United States and the British dependencies that lie adjacent to us upon our northern border, the intercourse of trade ought, in the natural order of things, to be as intimate and as extensive as the intercourse that exists within this Union between its States at large and any corresponding group of them. Indeed, the natural intimacy of connection between the provinces of the Dominion of Canada and our own Northern, Northwestern, and Eastern States, is such as exists between very few of the geographical sections of the Union. Through more than half the length of the coterminous line of the two territories, the very boundary of political separation is itself a great natural high-road of commercial intercommunication—the most majestic and the most useful