

ciples always involving the idea that the object of Britain in acquiring or retaining territory, is to bless not to blight it. And Lord Elgin bribed the Americans by sharing with them our Fishery and Navigation rights, to give us the Reciprocity Treaty, which, while it exists, removes the Canadian farmer's cause of complaint, [Hear, hear.] Now, therefore the preservation of this Reciprocity with the United States is shewn to be only the interest of the farmers, and through them of all others in Canada, but also of the British Government, as without it Canadians are left in a position, unless Intercolonial or other industrial arrangements are secured for them, to be much benefited industrially by Canada being annexed to the United States. I speak plainly, viewing him the most loyal man who speaks most plainly at such a crisis. [Applause.]

MR. JOHN W. GAMBLE'S DENUNCIATION OF DEPENDANCE ON WHEAT-GROWING.

(Being a criticism by him when member of the Canadian Parliament, at the Free Trade Era, of an article in *London Economist*.)

"The article alluded to asserts that farmers and millers in Canada favourable to annexation, adopt that plan from an opinion of its necessity, and as a countervailing benefit, contingent upon our colonial condition, points to the protection on Canadian timber in the British market.* The *Montreal Herald*, to add strength to the annexation cause, successfully shows the superiority of the United States as a market for that staple, thus rendering valueless the only commercial advantage remaining to us as a colony, and leaving the argument of necessity, as stated by a subordinate minister of the Crown, to exert its full force in favour of annexation. * * *

"I hold that to insure continuous prosperity to Canada, consumer and producer must be brought still nearer—placed side by side—and that the mode to accomplish this, and to aid the farmer in inducing the mechanic to take his place beside him, is a high protective tariff on all those articles for the manufacture of which we possess natural ad-

vantages. The editor of the *Economist*, this subordinate minister of the Crown, the great free trade advocate of England, admits, as his deliberate conviction, that the only relief, the only refuge for the depressed agricultural and milling interests of Canada, is to be sought and found—where? Why in the markets caused by the "protected corporations of New England." Here it is:—

'I repeat the remedy pointed out by the *Economist* as the only source of relief, annexation excepted, for the agricultural and milling interests of Canada is to be found in the markets caused by the protected corporations of New England. Wherein, then, do we differ? Protection, as a system, is equally the beneficial cause of the remedy, whether that remedy be attained by annexation, or by the more subtle mode, of the free ingress into the United States of our natural products, promised us by the *Economist* by treaty of Reciprocity. * * *

The difference is just this: I say, and common sense says, and the facts and reasoning of the *Economist* say, adopt yourselves the policy of the Union, and your protected corporations will soon furnish you with a market of your own, for your agricultural products at home.

'The *Economist* says, free trade with the Union in raw produce makes their high prices yours, but, true to England's interest, neglects to add, then will we gather those high prices into our own bosom, in exchange for the rags and devil's dust of Manchester and Leeds. No, no, Mr. *Economist*, England must consult the interest of her people abroad equally with those at home—they are no longer to be gulled with such words as "British subjects" and "integral parts of the empire." They have the shadow—they want the substance; she must consult their interests, or they will consult them for themselves. Annexation is far preferable industrially to your "Free Trade in Raw Products," unaccompanied by protection to home industry; and I submit whether the question of protection is not virtually conceded by this Free Trader.

* This Timber protection also has gone since.