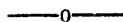


THE RECIPROCITY TREATY:

ITS ADVANTAGES TO THE UNITED STATES AND TO CANADA.



FOR many years after the United States had established their independence, their trade with the Colonies which continued to own allegiance to the British Crown was subject to most galling restrictions. Partial relief was afforded by the convention negotiated in 1830, by Mr. McLane, President Jackson's Minister at the Court of St. James; and a further step towards freedom in commerce was taken in 1846, when the American Government secured the enactment of a drawback law. The beneficial results of these measures led to the introduction into Congress, in 1848, of a Bill for Reciprocal Free Trade with Canada in certain articles. It failed to become law, but attention having been thus directed to the subject, the Senate, in 1851, requested the Secretary of the Treasury to communicate to it all the information he could gather relating to the commerce of the Provinces with the States. Mr. Corwin selected Mr. Andrews to collect and tabulate the statistics bearing on this Trade; and that gentleman's report, transmitted to the Senate in August, 1852, had a most important influence on the subsequent action of the British and American Governments and Legislatures.

Mr. Andrews reported:

"That the free navigation of the St. Lawrence was greatly desired by all those Western States bordering on the great Lakes, as their natural outlet to the Sea.

"That the free navigation of the St. John would be of great