

No trade arrangement with the United States would be lasting, for it would be the easiest thing in the world for agitators to persuade the masses of the people in the Republic that they were getting the worst of the bargain, so that Canadian farmers would hardly learn the road to that market before they would be cut off from it by a change of tariff. But even if a permanent arrangement could be made with the United States for unrestricted reciprocity or commercial union, it would mean that the millions of farmers in the United States would have the privilege of selling their products freely in Canada, and this would largely offset any advantages secured by Canadian farmers.

Then very few of the large cities of the United States are near the Canadian border and some of the largest of them which consume the greatest quantities of farm products are situated as near to the Southern States as to Canada and consequently in selling agricultural products in those markets Canadian farmers must expect to compete with the cheap negro labor of the South and they cannot do it successfully unless they are willing to dwell in the same sort of cabins as the negroes and live in the same half-civilized way.

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