

Scarcely had the Treaty been put into operation when agitations began in the U.S. for its amendment or abrogation. The border cities complained that their manufactured goods met an import duty at the Canadian frontier, that Canadian duties on manufactures were raised from 15 to 20 p.c., that Gaspé and Sault St. Marie were made free ports, that the treaty was unequal in its working, and that it should be abrogated. This, in the face of the fact that manufactured goods were excluded by express words from the operation of the treaty, that U.S. duties on manufactured goods imported from Canada were higher than Canadian duties on like articles and were raised by the Morrill Tariff, that consular fees were imposed for proof of origin of free goods, and that the U.S. used no effort to obtain free use of the State canals for Canadian vessels. The agitation was taken up by the Legislature of N.Y. State and pressed upon Congress by the resolution of both houses of that body. All this had its effect.

In 1865 notice of the abrogation of the treaty of 1854 was given by the United States; but neither Great Britain nor Canada abandoned the friendly attitude they had always taken.

When the notice of the abrogation of the treaty of 1854 was given on March 17th, 1865, by Mr. C. F. Adams, in London, to Lord John Russell, the British Minister was disposed to think that the Government of the United States was not serious, so great a body of commercial opinion in the United States seemed favorable to the continuance of the treaty. But the politicians were more active than the merchants, and Consul Wilkins, in a report of Sep. 7, 1865, said that at the Detroit convention the New York delegates "had been well educated in the school of opposition. On behalf of the latter it was urged that no treaty should be made with an unfriendly people and hints were thrown out that the annexation of Canada to the United States must follow the abrogation of the treaty." He also says that he found at the Board of Trade of St. Louis "a bitterness against Canada very general." Notwithstanding this unfriendly feeling the British Government and the Canadian Government joined in a friendly endeavour to secure a renewal of the treaty.

In 1865, Sir Alex. Galt and Hon. H. P. Howland from Canada, Hon. W. A. Henry, from Nova Scotia, and Hon. A. J. Smith,