

that protects you against indifferent business methods or not up-to-date machinery or a tariff that gives you unjust profits at his expense! I am firmly convinced that there are many of our industries to-day which are paying out profits upon so-called capital which never had any existence; that many of our businesses to-day by better management and economies and a real attention to business could make substantial profits upon the real money invested in the business without as much tariff protection as they have, and, mark you, the western farmer and the eastern farmer is becoming alive to that situation and will insist upon what he conceives to be fairer treatment to the consumer.

It is objected, too, by many of the opponents of Reciprocity that the freer interchange of trade is bound to result in such a tying-up of our affairs with the United States that it may lead either to great bitterness or to political union. The answer made by the advocates of Reciprocity I have usually found to be the views of Sir John Macdonald upon the subject in 1865,—

“It would be impossible to expose in figures with any approach to accuracy the extent to which the facilities of commercial intercourse created by the Reciprocity Treaty have contributed to the wealth and prosperity of this Province, and it would be difficult to exaggerate the importance which the people of Canada attach to the continued enjoyment of these facilities.

Nor is the subject entirely devoid of political significance. Under the beneficent operation of the system of self-government which the later policy of the Mother Country has accorded to Canada in common with the