

the ocean, although they are of the annual value of about \$750,000 (a). The Reciprocity Treaty does not, in terms, apply to these inland waters, but, owing in great part to its existence, Americans have not been molested while fishing in Canadian waters, where the best fisheries are. It may therefore be considered as one of the incidental advantages of the Treaty to the Americans that they have been allowed freely to take on our lake shores fish worth about \$250,000, while the Canadians have had the benefit of the market of the States for their catch, of which about \$75,000 worth has been annually exported across the border.

It would not be difficult to occupy, in treating of this branch of the subject, the few columns allowed for the discussion of the whole. Suffice it, however, to remark further, that a good supply of fish—a necessity of life to the members of at least one numerous creed—is of no little consequence to the health and comfort of all classes. Without reference then to the export trade in fish, it follows that every measure which enlarges the field of the fisherman's calling must be advantageous to the whole community. Moreover, (without alluding to the reciprocal trade in fish and flour between the States and the Maritime Provinces, of which hereafter,) it is evident that, since the fisherman is a consumer, not a producer of vegetable food, every measure which encourages the fishing industry of the East benefits the farming community of the West, as well as the forwarding and commercial interests of the middle States.

We need not, however, look to such indirect effects to see the enormous advantages of which the Treaty has been productive to the agricultural interests of the States and of Canada. Under the clause which permits the free importation into either country of most of the raw products of the other, the trade in these articles between Canada and the States, which was only some \$10,000,000

(a) The white-fish taken in the lakes in 1860 by the Americans, was given as \$587,479, of which \$250,467 was the result of the industry of Michigan.—Census, p. 188.

The value of the fisheries to Canadians, *vide* census, was about \$150,000. This is probably an under-statement, as it does not tally with the export tables.