A FORCIBLE ARGUMENT.

J. Morrell on the Subject of Reciprocity with Canada.

In a letter to Hon. Simon Cameron. Mr. D. J. Morrell, President of the "Industrial League," gives his opinion of the proposed treaty with Canada, and strong arguments against the removal of the existing tariff. We take occasion again to invite correspondence and arguments in relation to the Reciprocity Treaty, as it is certain to be an important issue before the next Congress, and now is the time to discuss the matter.

Hon. Simon Cameron, United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: I regret to find, from recent information on which I can rely, that the rumors of some weeks since in regard to the renewal of the so-called "Reciprocity Treaty" relate to a scheme which, if successful, will substantially set aside the protection against foreign competition which existing laws give to our industries. Instead of the simple and comparatively harmless stipulations entered into in 1854 to open our markets free of duty to the raw produce of Canada, it is a general scheme of free trade in iron, steel, cottons, woolens, and almost all other manufactures, which are to be admitted from all ports of British America free of duty for a period of twenty-one years.

This is almost equivalent to a grant of free trade with England for twenty-one years; and we get for it—free admission to Canada, where we have little occasion to sell. Of what value is Canada or any part of British America to us as a market for manufactured goods? With all forms of iron, steel, and manufactures generally at prices in Canada lower than ours by the full amount of the duty, and, with all these articles seeking our markets from the other side, how can we sell much to them under any considerable state of assumed reciprocity?

The Treaty now before the Senate (as I understand informally), does not propose any exchange of favors of equal value to each party, but is a most extraordinary and unprecedented concession of privileges to the Dominion; privileges to sell now what they may have of crude products to sell; and an invitation to them to develop every possible branch of manufactures to compete with and overwhelm our industries. Works planted along our border will receive iron, steel, and other things in the form of material free of duty from England, and will sell their finished product free of duty in the United States. Rail and bar mills, nail mills, plate mills, machine shops, Bessemer steel works, and every conceivable form of iron and steel works, can be placed opposite Buffalo or Detroit, with a guaranty of obtaining permanent supplies of stock, free of duty, and of having entire control of our markets for twenty-one years.

It strikes me as amazing that propositions, so dangerous alike to our revenues and our industries, should receive favor, or even consideration, at the State Department. I shall hope that in your committee, and in the Senate, they will meet with prompt and final condemnation. I can not believe that the Senate would favor the loss of revenues which would follow a renewal of the old Treaty; but when this great step in advance is taken—when a country of vast coterminous area is singled out for the inauguration of almost entire free trade in manufactured goods—I am at a loss to know what interest of our own country is consulted, or what it is that moves the representatives of our own govetnment to give it a moment's consideration.

As for the British Providences, of course we know what they need and

what they hope to attain. They need—and can not get elsewhere—renumerative markets for their supplies of raw produce. They have few manufactures, because they have not encouraged them, and have no local demand that is not almost wholly supplied by Great Britain. How then can opening their markets to our manufactures benefit us? Clearly there is another purpose in mind, which is the establishment in Canada of manufactures substantially British, the transfer of British capital and machinery to our frontier, there to make from the same low-priced materials, as in England, all the goods that our markets in the future will take.

Under the treaty a rolling mill in Canada can make rails and merchant bar from English iron, paying no duty, whether pig or scrap, and can supply Chicago or any port of the west, at rates ruinous to those who pay duty on their materials as the law requires.

Not only will this deceptively-framed treaty transfer millions of British capital to Canada to manufacture for our markets, but American capital will be driven there also. No considerable manufacture of metals in our own country can stand the trial of such competition. There are no natural barriers to the erection of any class of works in Canada. It is but a step from the iron mills at Cleveland and Buffalo, for instance, to the other shore of the lake, where British iron may be delivered cheaper than at New York, in the form of pig or bar, and the more finished forms could certainly be sold at rates destructive to the establishments on this side the line.

The proposition really is to abolish the tariff on the great array of manufactures named in the treaty schedule. If the foreign producer can plant his wooks on the Canadian frontier, with a guaranty of twenty-one years' immunity from all tariffs, it will pay him to go, even from Germany and other countries on the continent. In such case what will be the effect upon the revenues?

We have no reciprocity to ask for from Canada. Our manufacturers pay little or no duty on going there as things now are; and our crude or agricutural produce is all free of duty. What more do we want of them? Indeed. we care very little for the privileges already given us. Their market is not a hundreth part of ours whether open or closed. We have little interest in any policy the dominion may adopt. England might as well ask us to open our markets to all her manufactures, because we may sell a few sewing machines, or hay forks, or other specialties there, as we do now.

With all legislation openly had, and duly resolved on by our representatives in Congress, we will try to be satisfied, but I hold that the bureaux of the executive department have no right to repeal our laws in secret, and abolish the well-considered prctective features of the Tariff, through which alone our works can sustain themselves against foreign competition. Let us at least have the open Senate for the consideration of this measure, that the people may see who are actively engaged in the sale of their birthright for a mess of pottage.

I beg you to believe that I do not write to you at this length because I have any doubt of your opinions or action. The industries endangered by the Treaty are certain of finding a defender in you, and I desire that this earnest protest may have, through you, some effect upon your Committee and brother Senators. In my judgment, and in the judgment of hundreds of business men, proprietors of extensive mills, who will endorse all I say in this paper, twenty-one years of free trade with Canada, will bring destruction to many of our industries, will embarrass the revenues, and retard the progress of the country.

There has been a steady tide of immigration from Canada to the United States; the Treaty will turn it the other way. There has been a feeling in Canada in favor of annexation, which the Treaty will utterly destroy. None of its pretended benefits will compensate for the injuries which will assuredly flow from it. Neither the people nor their representatives have asked for it or sought to make it.

There appears to be a concerted effort on the part of certain newspapers to misrepresent public sentiment on this subject. It has been charged by the papers of the Dominion that a considerable sum belonging to the secret service fund was carried with them to Washington by the negotiations of the Treaty, and I am advised that some part of it has been expended to pay our old friend D. A. Wells for writing up the matter in the New York press. Opinions manufactured in this way will not impress the people very strongly, and should have but little weight with the Senate of the United States.

Yours, truly,
D. J. Morrell, Pres't,
The Industrial League.

An article in the July number of the Wisconsin Lumberman entitled "Hot Facts for Lumbermen," has attracted much attention among prominent lumbermen who are beginning to realize the necessity of curtailing the amount of lumber manufactured. in this issue of the Wisconsin Lumberman we are favored with a correspondence from one of the largest lumbering firms in Minnesota, Messrs. Hersey, Bean & Brown of Stillwater. We call particular attention to their article as endorsing the views of a former correspondent of this publication and also as indicating that manufacturers are beginning to be in earnest in their efforts towards regulating the lumber trade. The lumbermen themselves can control the market so as to have their business prove remunerative if they can only be brought to the habit of working together for mutual good. We invite such sound advice as given by Messrs. Hersey, Bean & Brown, for publication in the Wisconsin Lumberman.

The front of the Upper Wolf, Red River and West Branch drives, (these have united) reached Shawano last Friday. Owing to the low stage of water it will probably be a long time before the rear, now one hundred miles back, passes New London. We understand that this is the last drive this season.—*New London News.*

Mr. L. S. Beecher, of Boston, one of the largest lumber dealers and manufacturers in the United States is stopping at the New London House. We learn that he has a controlling interest in the drive above, and that the object of his visit is in relation to it.—*New London News 22d.*

The Eau Claire river is so low that Ash's line of boats have been withdrawn from the upper river. Raftsmen are experiencing much difficulty in running out lumber, and occupy from three to four days in getting to the Mississippi, instead of eighteen hours, the usual time in good water.

L. M. Pierce's mill and that of England, Taylor & Co., Oconto, are shut down for lack of logs.

The total loss by the recent great fire at Muskegon, Mich., is reported at $200,000.