

consultation and arrangement endeavors to come to such a determination as will be to the advantage of all the interests at stake. In other words, the conditions of the relations between England and Canada are such as to ensure unity of policy as long as each government considers the interests of England and the dependency as identical, and keeps ever in view the obligations, welfare, and unity of the Empire at large. Full consultation in all negotiations affecting Canada, representation in every arbitration and commission that may be the result of such negotiations, are the principles which have been admitted by England of late years in acknowledgment of the development of Canada and of her present position in the empire, and any departure now from so sound a doctrine would be a serious injury to the imperial connection and an insult to the ability of Canadians to take a part in the great councils of the world.

Canada then is no longer a mere Province, in the old colonial sense of the term, but a Dominion possessing many of the attributes of a self-governing nation. Her past history is not that of a selfish people, but of one ever ready to make concessions for the sake of maintaining the most friendly relations between England and the United States. Every treaty that has been made with the United States has been more or less at the expense of some Canadian interest, but Canadians have yielded to the force of circumstances, and to reasons of national comity and good neighborhood. Canada has been always ready to agree to any fair measure of reciprocal trade with her neighbors, but this paper has shown that all her efforts in that direction have been fruitless for years.¹ One thing is certain, and that is, the Canadian people, since 1866, have been taught the great lesson of self-reliance, and the necessity of developing all those

¹ It is proper to state here that, in addition to the several efforts for a renewal of reciprocity that have been mentioned in this paper, the Government of Canada in 1879 placed on the statute book what has been called "a standing offer" that certain American products should be proclaimed free of duty in Canada whenever similar Canadian products were allowed to enter free into the United States. But this enactment practically proved a nullity.— "See Revised Statutes of Canada," c. 33, sec. 9.