

UNDER THE REIGN OF VICTORIA

no Canadian need be ashamed to belong to an Empire which embraces a fifth of the habitable globe, and to know that his own Dominion forms nearly a half of the whole; an Empire five times as large as that which was under Darius; four times the size of that under ancient Rome; sixteen times greater than France; forty times greater than United Germany; three times larger than the United States, Australia alone nearly as big as the States; India nearly a million and a quarter of square miles; Canada, 600,000 square miles larger than the States, without Alaska; and 18,000 square miles larger with it! An Empire nearly 9,000,000 of square miles, with a population of 310,000,000. Sharers in such a realm; heirs to such vast and varied privileges, "Canadians are not for sale." Political annexation must then remain a bug-a-boo for disappointed politicians on our side to play with, and a bubble for certain Senators on this side to blow to decoy their innocent fanatics at home. But there is an annexation we favor, that of brotherly friendship and political good-will. You have 54,000,000 the start of us. Are you the Goliath, afraid of Canada as a political David? Canada has been a good neighbor. When Lincoln and Garfield died, the Dominion was in mourning. Whenever any of your men-of-war come into our ports, the citizens rejoice, and give their men the hospitalities of the cities. There are constant reciprocity treaties being made every day in the year between us at the altar of Hymen. At many of our banquets the toast of the President follows that to the Queen. At most of our public gatherings your flag entwines ours. From most of our pulpits prayers are offered for your ruler as well as for ours. That is the sort of alliance that we do more than you do to promote. We want, too, fair commercial reciprocity, but we shall not take commercial union for it, or bend our necks or our knees for either. Whatever betides, we can both be loyal to our own political convictions, we can both be fair, even to our own national and natural prejudices, and while Canadians may neighborly pray "God bless the Republic," may you not in as friendly a spirit reciprocate with "God Save the Queen."