

western pioneer. It seems almost folly to ask: Can trade be free and prosper between its scattered elements throughout the Dominion when their intercourse is in the grasp of a monopoly, which thus blunders them to pay tribute or hush money to a foreign corporation? To you we appeal to assist us by your moral support, in one effort, to break this iniquitous compact, which taxes the Canadian to enrich the foreigner; to assist us in facilitating and cheapening transportation between all portions of our Dominion, and thus making Canadian trade what it ought to be—one concentrated whole.

Lastly we appeal upon grounds of Confederation. Our confederation of provinces never was intended to, never can, and never will be, with the consent of the free people composing them, a union of conquered and consequently oppressed petty states, but a union of free and representative peoples' unitedly possessing all the necessaries to become in time a great nation. Only upon grounds of equality can these members of our Confederation grow up in harmony and prosperity, and wherever a departure is made from this principle of equality, as has been with the railway rights of Manitoba, the seeds of discord are sown, and Confederation exists only in name, and upon the power of the strong to oppress the weak. We cannot believe that the people of Canada desire a policy like this, which will naturally produce discontent, if not a stronger feeling, in a portion of the Dominion to which they belong, and in the prosperity of which they are so deeply interested. Much less do we believe that they will favor such a policy, to secure an imaginary advantage to a solitary corporation, a policy the Dominion Government seeks to enforce with the sacrifice of every principle of good faith on its part, and under the gauzy subterfuge of a trade policy. With this appeal we rest our case with the people of Canada, with the confidence that with them our rights will be respected.