

our equal right to the navigation of the St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes and the rivers connecting them, without hindrance or discrimination; the rigid enforcement of our customs laws over every foot of the international boundary line; the execution of our Chinese Exclusion Act without evasion; a due respect to our right of national defence; and finally upon the unimpeded operation of the law of our national growth, with all that the law in its fullest sense can be construed to mean. The American people did not make the boundary line, and cannot be blamed if they look upon it as separating them from a foreign and frequently a hostile nation. It became a necessity by the will of Great Britain. The North American Continent is a unit, and it became peopled almost exclusively by the Anglo Saxon race, through the operation of natural laws. No earthly arrangement can defeat the destiny, intended for either, but it becomes us as good citizens to strive to discover what that destiny is to be, and to do our part manfully to hasten its consummation.

Permit me to say in conclusion, that I think I see clearly the road on which we are compelled, perhaps all unconsciously, to travel. It lies fair and broad before us, and leads straight forward without crook or turn to a continental republic, extending from the tropics to the north polar sea, and bounded on all sides by the ocean which encircles the world. The people within it, as well as the separate States which govern their local affairs are free and equal, and subject only to that written Constitution, which the wisest of English Statesman has pronounced to be the grandest instrument of Government ever framed at a single epoch by a single set of men!