

seaboard, south to St. Paul, and the vast interests that centre in these grand transcontinental lines that are knit together by them, invite to other fields of conquests this side of the great lakes, until Portland, Ore., St. Paul, Chicago, Buffalo, New York, and San Francisco pay tribute to these interests and share in their wonderful growth and development; and it may astonish some present to know that to-day the Dominion government has subsidized, and is now subsidizing, a railroad in connection with this vast system across the State of Maine, to shorten the route to the cities of the eastern seaboard.

We are one people—in laws, religion, sympathy, and pursuits, and descended from a common origin, and our trade and intercourse are constantly growing in importance.

Look for a moment to the unlimited resources of that country, with her great lakes

and rivers and forests; with her natural storehouses of gold and silver, of coal, iron, copper, and lead. Her pastoral and agricultural resources are unlimited, and 1,500 miles northwest of St. Paul we find actually the great wheat fields of this continent, and which, when fully developed, will not only equal, but far surpass the great Odessa region in Russia, and 40,000 square miles of coal underlie this same territory.

These are some of the past and present conditions of our relations to this great country. The great question is what shall be their future? Shall we extend the same courtesy to her that we are extending to our southern neighbors? Why should we not? Shall we remove the custom house, or shall we support them by two lines of fortification, each nearly 4,000 miles long, the one built by ourselves and the other by our neighbors? It is for our government to say.