

The difficulties besetting the formation of a united, compact state out of a chain of widely scattered provinces, reaching from the Atlantic to the Pacific, appear insuperable. Dumb-bell like, the greatest bulk and weight is at each end, the connecting bar being represented by some one thousand two hundred miles of lacustrine shores, rocky deserts and portages, varied by swamps and lakelets,—the forbidding, silent wilderness stretching from the head-waters of the Ottawa to Thunder Bay, and thence to Manitoba. What, then, can a candid thinker conclude from the above facts, save that the present and future interests of the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island can be best promoted by a close and friendly union with the American Republic? The Northern and Eastern States adjoin these provinces, and supply them their nearest and most profitable markets, and have long been connected with them by the bonds of good neighborhood and mutual trade. There is everything in the natural, social, and commercial circumstances of the two countries to favor such a happy consummation, which could not fail to gratify the pride, stimulate the energies, and enormously augment the wealth and resources of the two young Anglo-Saxon nations of North America. Already over a million of Canadians, French and British, intelligent and enterprising, have founded homes in the Republic, the number yearly increasing. There is no reason why the remainder should not sensibly anticipate the future, and unite their and their country's fortunes with the greatest and most prosperous nation the world has ever known.

P. BENDER.

METROPOLITAN
TORONTO
CENTRAL
LIBRARY
History