

And now, in temporarily closing this introductory view, it strikes me that some explanation of the position which I hold, and have so long persistently held, is called for, or at least may not be out of place. Every one knows that I was a member of the old liberal party of Canada in the days of the Union of the Provinces,—that by it I was made Representative of Toronto, the Metropolitan constituency, in the first parliament of the Union—and that, in this way, I had a hand in carrying through all our great Provincial Reforms,—Reforms which were consummated before some of those who are loudest in usurping for themselves a monopoly of the liberal name had arrived in the Province.

I subsequently found that, both at home and in the colony, the individuals now on the stage as Liberals had borrowed from ROBESPIERE his fatal doctrine which, for the greater prominence, I placed at the commencement of this explanation—*"perissent les Colonies plutôt qu'un prince."* They regard Government as a bundle of theories rather than as a Trustee of great national interests,—a conspiracy of men rather than an embodiment of party principles. *They will not recognize the employment of its own people as the first question in the Politics of every country, whether it is an independant country, or a colony,* but they make their primary questions things of secondary importance, such as forms of Government and questions as to the internal machinery thereof. These, at best, are only questions of machinery, or modes, or means. And they set entirely to one side the only question of paramount importance to the people, viz: *immediately and permanently to secure the elevation and independence of our own people's circumstances.* At the past periods alluded to, my mind was impressed (as it still is) with the feeling that it is of vital importance, both for the Mother Country and her Colonies, that these heartless theories in regard to our industry be abjured. But at that time a man was at once set down as a tory Monopolist who dared to profess patriotic views with regard to the employment of the people. And my mission on both sides of the Atlantic seemed to me to be to assist in rolling back this prejudice that had been created in the minds of the public—that a man's being patriotically anxious to protect his own country's industry was inconsistent with his being of the most liberal politics.

My industrial doctrines are, and ever have been, those conceived by the public to be contrary to my personal interests