

able to open trade relations with the United States, and while one-fourth of its adult population is already in this country, shrieks hysterically, "Treason!" "Rebellion!" Under these circumstances a political union seems too remote to justify its present consideration, from a business point of view at least.

The peculiarities of the Canadians—their sturdy Anglo-Saxon nature—make the task a hopeless one, either to drive or force them into submission. Moreover, the great mass of the American people would disapprove such a policy. Those who might favor it would soon find that the people at large, especially the great mass of business men, would much prefer a more natural and a more profitable course. If a union of nations on this continent is to be brought about except by conquest, it must be brought about by union of interests. Unless a political union can be achieved by a perfect acquiescence in the advantages and superiority of the institutions of the United States, a political union would be a serious and fatal mistake.

It remains, therefore, to consider whether a Commercial Policy cannot be immediately inaugurated by both countries which will materially benefit both nations, without political union, and which might have the eventual effect of removing the obstacles to political union. There are those who think that a policy of retaliation—for which they allege Canada has afforded abundant justification—would starve the Dominion into submission; there are others who believe that a steady persistence in the policy of rigid and, perhaps, offensive indifference will result in Canada dropping like a ripe