

If that affection for England, which I most heartily share, is felt by any American citizen of British race as a bar to a change of allegiance, let him remember that the worst of all tributes which can be offered to the Mother Country is the political impotence of her friends.

Into anything like conspiracy, cabal, or anti-national organization, it is to be hoped that British and Canadian Americans will never allow themselves to be drawn. If they ever act in unison as a race, let it be only in self-defence and for the purpose of repelling contumely and wrong, as their kinsmen are beginning to find it necessary to do on this side of the line. Their paramount duty, as they well know, is that of American citizens bound to exercise their political power for the good of the Republic as a whole, and without regard to distinctions of race or creed. But as American citizens they have a right to equality; they have a right to immunity from political insult; they have a right to security against being misgoverned, and still more against being dragged into unrighteous quarrels with their Mother Country in the alien interest of an Irish feud; and in asserting those rights they will only be doing what true loyalty and patriotism dictate toward their adopted country,

Yours faithfully,

GOLDWIN SMITH.

TORONTO, Sept. 17th, 1887.