

of the social machinery and a political danger to the State. We have built altars to political corruption and the face of a great peculator never graced the precincts of a Canadian penitentiary. We are probably to-day one of the rottenest states among civilized communities, and it will serve no interest, but that of the peculators themselves, to shut our eyes to it. But we are yet at the threshold of National life. The experience of the United States is there to warn us. We can expect, through the medium of our own institutions, to set everything right before it is too late and we get stuck in that mire of political degradation that the Washington Senate and the American Caucus are dragging the American nation to. ¶ This is why we are anti-Annexationists.

¶ And here we are, French and English, the foes of yesterday, scions of the two greatest nations of the world, joint owners of an immense and an immensely rich territory. Our different extractions may be a cause of backwardness or a cause of progress, according as we choose to embitter the minority by coercive legislation or to intensify its patriotism by broad and just legislation. The matter rests with us. We think that in spite of occasional outbursts of passion, and the sincere but ill-inspired advocacy of compulsory assimilation by some, common sense will prevail in the end and race rivalry will be wholly diverted to productive channels. Working in common, each race profiting by the experience of its parent state and of Canada's southern neighbors, we can make of Canada the happiest country in the history of the world. We owe this object lesson to humanity. To ourselves we owe this victory. ¶ This is why we are