

Finally, when the boundary of Alaska was fixed, under the convention of 1903, by six jurists of repute, three of whom were of our own choosing, and two of them Canadians, there was heard a cry, splendid in its loudness, that we had been robbed by the Americans, and that we had been first forsaken, and then betrayed, by England. Of course we did not mean it. This was only the conduct of a people which is not so unsophisticated as that shrewd observer of thirteen years was induced to believe.

With these large matters disposed of it was then time to turn to a solution of the remaining questions. In the intervening years those questions have been solved, and there is now between ourselves and our neighbours an absolutely clean slate. It is the intention of the present note to indicate the stages by which this result has been achieved, or rather to trace the series of events which have followed one another in tumultuous succession since Mr. Bryce went to Washington as Ambassador Extraordinary in 1907.

In addition to other qualifications for the post of plenipotentiary, Mr. Bryce is possessed of the gift of sympathy for the American Commonwealth. Indeed, it was generally known before he came that he had written a large book which bore that very title. Few had read the book, but all were aware that it contained much that was laudatory of the United States, and for a century the people had been yearning for some such recognition from the world, even whilst they were affecting to despise it. By another curious coincidence Lord Grey was governor-general of Canada during the same period, and it is no fault of his that he has impressed the American mind, as it has not been impressed since the days of Elgin—so readily is a democratic people moved by alertness of mind, simplicity of manner, and humane-ness of conduct, especially when these qualities are associated with high place and noble birth. By still another coincidence Sir Wilfrid Laurier was premier of Canada, and the Americans