

granted all the rights and privileges of the most favored nation, and her present exclusion from commercial relations with the civilized world can alone account for the general depression.

The Canadian Government is Powerless to remove the differential prohibitory duties now paralyzing Canadian industry and commerce. We will admit that the British nation is, above all, practical, cool, self-possessed, calculating, strong-minded, and specially free from all sentimentality on business matters. While other nations were agitating the world, and rushing into disastrous wars about philosophical questions, the British nation was quietly at work, building up that tremendous Colonial Empire, which has accumulated in the British Isles more wealth than can be found in any other part of the globe. We in Canada are only a small portion of that Colonial Empire, and our population of 4,000,000 does not amount to a row of pins, thrown in with the 250,000,000 of our fellow-colonists. We are simply the subjects of the people of England. We are of all nationalities, creeds and colors, from the jet black of the African to the bright complexion of our Canadian wives and daughters, from the bronzed-faced Hindoo to the lighter hue of our North-west Indian. In one respect only do we resemble one another in this motley crowd of colonists: it is, that we are equally powerless to settle our own commercial matters, to negotiate our own commercial treaties. The British people, whose subjects we are, have always taken good care to reap all the advantages involved in the possession of such a fine domain. As practical men, they have kept to themselves the treaty-making power, which alone can secure to their manufactures the markets of the world, on the most favorable terms. That power they have been specially careful not to extend to any of their colonies, which would thus become dangerous rivals. A sound colonial-policy can have no other object than to keep colonists in the tri-