

Provinces covered by the original Act of Confederation, the Dominion now included nine. After referring to the well-known feature of difference, that whereas in Canada the provinces have specified powers and the Dominion Government takes all the residue, in the United States the contrary is the case, he went on to say, that the Government of Canada, like that of Great Britain herself, was in closer touch with the public pulse. With them the popular will could more speedily assert itself. The power of absolute veto, moreover, given to the American Executive, for a period of four years, carried with it privileges which not even the Emperor-King could arrogate to himself. Again the Canadian judiciary and other public officials did not depend for appointment to office on public favour, and might, therefore, perhaps (*a priori*) be expected to conduct themselves more impartially than is sometimes the case under the elective system. A feature, again, on which he noted that President Eliot had laid considerable stress was the fact that the Dominion ministers on a dissolution could in Canada go anywhere for re-election. This gave the country the benefit of more continuous service on the part of their best men. He quoted from President Butler, who speaking of the United States, had lately recorded his conviction that "the system, unfortunate in high degree, of small constituencies having individual representatives in state and national legislatures, who are almost uniformly residents of the districts for which they are elected, has reduced to a minimum the truly representative capacity and efficiency of those bodies and has deprived them of many elements of power. For it is well-nigh a political axiom that large constituencies make independent representatives and that small constituencies make tools and ciphers."

Canada has other and very special difficulties to which he could not venture to make any detailed reference. He advised his hearers to read Siegfried's recent book, which was the most complete presentation of existing conditions that could anywhere be found. Life in the grand old province of Quebec was certainly full of interesting features. It might be said, with some degree of truth, that the *entente cordiale*,