

America, is to fuse many small communities into one large one. Russia, Prussia and Italy are daily absorbing the smaller nations that are around them; and the United States has just passed through the most gigantic war of modern times rather than have a division of her extended empire. The effect of this policy is materially to advance the progress of the human race. If the United States had not owned California and Oregon, and her Territories on the Pacific, how long would it have been before,—nay, who could have named the time when—a Railroad would have crossed the boundless wastes of the Interior of the Continent, or scaled the Rocky Mountains?

The consolidation of countries—the abolition of interior restrictions and tariffs—must increase trade and open wide fields for labor; and as trade advances, civilization advances, and all that contributes to the material and intellectual improvement of man goes on *pari passu*.

As the future Statesmen of the Country, considerations of this nature must force themselves upon you; and it is while you are young,—nay, while you are even yet at College,—you must prepare your minds—you must lay the foundations for this your future work. Again, the characteristics of nations and of races must be studied. New Countries gather in the surplus populations of the Old. More than one third of our countrymen in the Dominion are descendants of another race—the first great founders of Empire in that part of America over which Her Majesty now reigns. The matchless daring of Champlain—the heroic hardihood of his companions—the unfaltering courage with which, alone, they penetrated and explored then unknown regions, peopled by fierce and savage tribes—the chivalry of Montcalm—have thrown around the history of New France a romantic interest that can never fade. Their descendants still cherish their old institutions—still speak their old language; but are as loyal and true as any people in the British Empire. Can you legislate fairly for these men without knowing their language or their history?