

of the Dominion from the Atlantic to the Pacific will address you this evening, and for them I bespeak a patient hearing to whatever party they may belong. I will ask you to look simply at the arguments they bring forward and let us see while they ask us to draw our Briton brothers at the other side of the lake more closely to us, if you men here will desire to shut out your own fathers, mothers, and forefathers. (Loud applause.)

The League Endorsed.

Col. George T. Denison, in rising to move the following resolution, was received with cheers :

Resolved, That this meeting hails with pleasure the establishment of a branch of the Imperial Federation League in this city and confidently hopes that through its instrumentality the objects of the League may be advanced and the ties which bind Canada to the Mother Land strengthened and maintained.

He said it would not be necessary for him to make a very lengthened or powerful speech in order to secure their adhesion to the principles laid down in the resolution. (Hear, hear.) He desired to make a few remarks with reference to the subject, which was one of the most important that could engage the attention of a Canadian audience. (Applause.) The chairman had well said that it was not a political meeting, as otherwise he would not have been there. (Hear, hear.) It was a meeting where every Canadian who loved his country could attend without a compromise of political principles, and he was glad to see such a large, intelligent and enthusiastic assemblage gathered together to proclaim their unswerving allegiance and attachment to the Mother Land. (Loud applause.) There was a crisis at that moment in the affairs of the country and it behooved every patriotic son of Canada to rally around the old flag which had so often frustrated the evil designs of traitors. (Applause.) They were upon the verge of two roads and would have to choose one or the other. (Hear, hear.) He called them traitors because the movement for Commercial Union was originally designed by traitors. (Tremendous applause.) He desired to be fair to those who believed that the movement would not destroy the national life and sentiment of Canada. (Hear, hear.) At the same time he adhered to the position he had assumed in maintaining that the movement was originated in treason. (Loud applause.) There was no use in mincing words in the matter. (Hear, hear.) Commercial Union could only be carried out by absolutely severing the ties which bound the Canadian people to the Mother Land. (Applause.) Not only that, but it aimed at the destruction of the national life of the country by subjecting the people to the power and dictates of a foreign country. (Ap-

plause.) He desired to draw the attention of the audience to a few facts in the history of the continent. Canada was a country with a comparatively small population, but an immense territory, rich in every department of mine and forest lying alongside a country of immense population and great resources. If that country was not an aggressive country, the difficulty would be minimized. He held, however, that it was an aggressive and grasping country. (Hear, hear.) They wanted Florida and they took it; Louisiana and Alaska they annexed; California and Mexico they conquered, and Texas they stole. (Loud applause.) They wanted half of the State of Maine that belonged to Canada and they swindled the Canadian people out of it by means of a false map. (Loud cheers.) The war between the North and South was as much for tariff as slavery. (Hear, hear.) It was only after three years that the South decided to emancipate the slaves. (Hear, hear.) They conquered the South and put them at their feet. (Applause.) He asked them to remember their treatment of the Canadian people in dealing with the question of Imperial Federation. In 1775 they attempted to conquer Canada and again in 1812 but they were beaten ignominiously both times. (Loud cheers.) They left no stone unturned in 1812 to conquer Canada and gave it up as a hopeless task after a three years' effort. (Cheers.) The population of Ontario at that time was only 100,000 as against their ten millions. (Cheers.) They fomented discord which led to the Fenian raid in 1866. Those benighted warriors came armed with United States muskets. (Loud cheers.) They had never evinced a friendly feeling towards Canada. (Hear, hear.) They sent the British Minister home during the Crimean war when they thought England had her hands full. (A voice—"Shame," and loud applause.)

The scheme for Commercial Union emanated from a traitor in New York. (Cheers.) They wanted to have control of the Canadian tariffs. (A voice—"never.")

A man in the audience who gave the name of Robert Spratt and stated he had been a resident of the city for over thirty years, rose to a point of order. He was greeted with yells and hisses from all parts of the hall and cries of "put him out."

The Chairman—The consensus of the meeting is against you. You had better not interrupt the speaker any further.

Mr. Spratt—We know all about these matters.

Col. Denison, resuming, said if the gentleman who interrupted him would keep himself in bounds long enough he would endeavor to make the matter so plain that even a person like him could understand. (Loud cheers.) He was simply relating a few historical facts to show that the people of the