

by other than peaceable means. In the event of war with England, public sentiment would entirely change, and Canada would then be the battle-ground. It might even happen that a persistence by the Canadian Government in a nagging and unfriendly policy, as shown in the harsh and antiquated interpretation of the Fishery Treaty, the constant invitation to retaliation by acts of apparent bad neighborhood, by hostile tariffs and other irritating influences, might work up a sentiment in the United States that would demand and justify the military capture of Canada. If, indeed, the anti-British vote in the United States had any real influence upon the policy of the country (which it has not), some military advantage might be taken of Canada's weakness, by reason of its remoteness from Great Britain, and the enormous preponderance of the United States. But up to the present hour there is not the slightest sign, in any class or in any direction, of a desire to acquire Canada other than by the free and unbiassed consent of her own people.

While it may be said, in truth, that eight of every ten men in the United States would like to see Canada a part of the Union, it could, until recently, with equal truth be alleged that, in Canada, eight of every ten Canadians preferred to preserve existing political conditions, and to remain part and parcel of the British Empire. An agitation for closer commercial relations, which have been denied to them; a persistence in a restrictive and offensive policy toward the United States, and an attempt to divert public opinion in favor of some form of Imperial Federation with other colo-