

personified the people, and now no nation can be insulted so surely as by an indignity to its flag.

All these things may to our hard-working, matter-of-fact people seem silly, but they are the things which build up the sentiment which sustains nations. Napoleon declared that it was by the imagination he conquered Europe, and nations can be saved as well as conquered by the same means.

On the whole the prospect is that Canada could sustain independence. She is doing so in reality at present. In all things affecting the country itself, Canada governs itself. The only thing to complete her sovereignty is power to transact her business and intercourse with foreign powers. All the expense necessary to self-government is sustained by Canada with the exception of the expense of a diplomatic body, and that would not cost much. Representation at the capitals of the Great Powers would only be necessary. An ambassador at Washington, London, Paris, Berlin, Vienna and St. Petersburg could be supported for \$50,000 a year, and we pay that sum now to a Governor-General. The labor and trouble which would be saved to Canadian merchants by having a man in Washington alone, through whom Canadian business could be done directly with the American Government, would pay for the extra expense. If then so little extra expense is required and such great benefits are to be obtained, is not independence to be desired. That independence if obtained would be prized above all earthly considerations by Canadians, and it would only be lost when there would not be left five thousand men in the country to fight for it. The new state might not be at first very formidable—so much the better for its success; it would not attract the envy or rivalry of any other nation. There are many among us who think and say that we are not strong enough to support nationality, but,

“What constitutes a state?

Not high raised battlement or labored mound,

Thick wall or moated gate;

Not cities proud with spires and turrets crowned;