

larger per capita than ours, yet it is much less than that of Great Britain and only one third of that of France.

Your railways are at the rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles per thousand inhabitants whereas ours are at the rate of only $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles per thousand inhabitants. You have expended \$85,000,000 for your canal system, or at the rate of \$15.00 per capita. A similar expenditure by the United States would mean nearly \$1,250,000,000, and great as is the work we are now undertaking at Panama it is, by comparison with our resources, a small effort compared with that which you have successfully put forth in the canals connecting the lakes with the sea.

Your system of public education is, I believe, excellent, and you have hitherto had the enormous advantage of being practically exempt from expenditures for military purposes. For the army, navy, fortifications and pensions the United States spends about \$360,000,000 per annum, or about \$4.50 per capita, and for similar purposes Great Britain spends nearly \$320,000,000 or about \$7.60 per capita. Canada, on the other hand, spends only about \$4,000,000 per annum for such purposes or about 70 cents per capita. That you can continue to enjoy this exemption as you grow in wealth and population seems improbable, but that it is an enormous advantage to you so long as it can be continued is beyond question.

It behooves my countrymen, as it seems to me, to study these problems with some care and decide what is to be their attitude toward their neighbor on the north, destined so soon to be the equal in wealth and population of a great nation.

It was the mistake of England, or at least of its governing class and its representative statesmen, during the 80 years or more intervening between the War of 1812 and the War with Spain, to adopt toward the United States an air of condescension and arrogance, not unmingled at times with hatred and contempt. I say it was a mistake because it did not retard the growth of the United States one iota. It engendered a feeling of hostility which is only now subsiding, and in the end it left England more