

ada were prepared for the larger step of political union, and the consequence is that my views came far short of what he was expecting. Nevertheless, he made no objection and the time passed at the Grange most agreeably. His wife was exceedingly pleasant, and "Chin", the butler, was wonderfully *au fait* with his duties. Breakfast took place at nine o'clock and dinner at seven and all things surrounding the Grange were orderly and well appointed. In discussion of English politics Mr. Goldwin Smith was extremely vigorous and outspoken in his criticisms. He understood English politics perfectly, but he accompanied his knowledge of them with strange prejudice against many of those who were taking part in the affairs. He maintained a most careful relationship with Lord Rosebery with whom he was corresponding regularly and he was full of the most extraordinary stories about all the great men of Europe, including Napoleon III, in fact one might go for a long time among the men of Canada and not meet one who was so perfectly familiar with all matters of a prominent character. His remarks were often axiomatic and extremely vigorous. He was tall, extremely thin, and produced the impression of a person who had spent his whole life in the midst of matters of importance.

As a literary man, he had scarcely an equal in the English-speaking world. His writings were perfect; the use of the right word was always his and his sentences were balanced with grace and ease such as characterized no other writer of his day. He had wealth, largely through his wife, and was able to spend the latter part of his life in perfect comfort and luxury and engage himself in all matters of a benevolent and useful character.

From this beginning in 1888 I continued visiting his house until the year before his death, always enjoying to the fullest extent the oppor-

tunity presented for obtaining his views on all matters. Mr. Haultain, his secretary, was engaged for a number of years and was always ready for his task, but often, instead of being employed in literary work, Haultain was called upon by the hour to listen to his various anecdotes and observations on matters and men in general.

On this first visit to Mr. Smith he accompanied me to Niagara-on-the-Lake, where there was a meeting of the Chautauqua, and the afternoon was to be devoted to the subject of Canadian Reciprocity. The speakers were Mr. Wiman, myself and last, Mr. Goldwin Smith. It was a very large assembly of persons. The day was extremely fine and considerable interest was taken in the matter.

This was not the first occasion on which I had met Mr. Erastus Wiman. He had been identified for some considerable length of time in the discussion of Unrestricted Reciprocity in Canada, and previous to this I had met him in Quebec, where he had come to lecture during the time the Interprovincial Conference was held there in 1887. At that time a person was perfectly justified in pinning his faith to Mr. Erastus Wiman on account of the power which he wielded in both the United States and in Canada. He was reputed extremely wealthy by being a partner in Dun, Wiman & Co. and his share of the income in that great concern was at least eighty thousand dollars a year. He was a man of great energy and presented any question which he undertook to deal with in a most interesting manner and the whole character of the man was full of generous instincts and the desire to make himself agreeable and useful to every person with whom he came in contact, and his advocacy of reciprocity between the United States and Canada was forcible and able, but he lacked the ability to keep within certain bounds and to recognize certain principles of prejudice and interest which characterized the Canadian people.