

on this continent upon certainly no better footing as to geographical and physical considerations than the United States, yet I say that every class in our community is immensely more prosperous at this moment than the same class in the United States. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) You will find on all our public works at the present moment—on the new works on the Welland Canal—that at least one-half, if not two-thirds, of all the men employed there are Americans, who have come over because they were unable to find work on their own side of the line. (Hear, hear.) You will find also that throughout the whole of the United States there are thousands upon thousands of idle men who are passing through the country creating a state of terrorism which has had no example in that country or in England, simply because the protectionist has ruined its trade, and there are millions of people out of employment—a burden upon the rest of the country. It has depressed their agricultural industry and limited their power to buy goods from the manufacturer. All these goods are made in such a way and at such a cost that they cannot be exported to foreign countries.

#### Canada and the Mother Country.

As Canadians, should we take any pride in the policy of the Empire to which we belong? As a loyal Canadian, I think our plan is politically to keep on all-fours with the rest of the Empire, to keep our policy in harmony with that of the Mother Country in trade and in everything else where it is possible for us to act in unity with her. But these men—these Tory leaders who claim continually to be the very salt of the earth as to loyalty—to be the means of preserving this country to British connection—who are constantly denouncing myself or some of my associates in our political ranks with being tainted with disloyalty to the Empire—why, Sir, these are the men who scorn to pay the slightest regard to the policy of the British Empire—that policy which has carried the English ship and the English flag to every port of the world—that policy which has carried British commerce—British manufactures, the British name and British civilization to the remotest parts of the earth. (Loud cheers.) Some years ago most of the public men of Canada exerted themselves to procure a close union of the British American Provinces. That Confederation we accomplished, and we hope, Sir, to preserve a similar close alliance—if not with the same system of representation—at all events, an alliance in our legislative actions if not in our legislative authority—which will harmonize with the British system; and we will see the whole of the Colonies of the Empire which are girdling the earth, working together as a confederated body, setting at defiance the tyrants of the earth, and setting also at defiance the evil systems of commercial economy and commercial policy which would, if carried out, result in bringing us back to the state from which we only emerged fifty or sixty years ago with considerable difficulty.

#### The Future of the United States.

Sir, I prophesy further, that the United States of America within the next five years will go back to the policy in existence before 1860. (Hear, hear and cheers.) There is now no possibility of escape from that course for the people of the United States. They have, by their protective policy brought ruin upon themselves. They have by their