



## *Shall Canadians take Gifts from Andrew Carnegie?*

The self-respecting individual is very careful about accepting presents. I know no reason why Communities should be any less particular; and I venture to ask whether self-respecting Canada should take money from Mr. Carnegie.

It is very natural that offers of free libraries, etc., should at first sight appear praiseworthy in every way; and the fact that Mr. Carnegie was born under the British flag, though now an American citizen, seems a sufficient explanation of his proposed contributions to Canadian objects.

I submit, however, that we cannot accept his benefactions without forfeiting all claim to independence of character and proper self-esteem, for reasons which I will proceed to give.

There are certain things which we Canadians, in common with all true British subjects, hold very dear, and of which we feel we may be justly proud. They are our own fair Country; the splendid Empire to which we belong; our form of Government, a constitutional Monarchy under which we enjoy a freedom unsurpassed since the world began; the Navy and Army, whose glorious achievements no words could over-state.

Upon all these Mr. Carnegie has aired his opinions in print, so it is easy to ascertain what they are.

As the day is approaching, when Englishmen all the world over gather to do honour to their Motherland, (always heartily joined by their fellow-subjects of every race); and soon follows the anniversary upon which for more than sixty years Britain's sons and daughters have voiced their devotion to our late deeply lamented Queen; it has occurred to me that the facts might be most forcibly presented by compiling a "toast-list" appropriate to such occasions, substituting for the usual quotations from the great poets and authors extracts from the writings of Mr. Carnegie.

If these examples of that gentleman's sentiments do not cause his proffered gifts to be declined, without thanks, by all Canadians I am greatly mistaken in the people of my adopted country.

WILLIAM ROBINS.

WILKERVILLE, ONTARIO.

April 8th, 1901.

Since the above was written it is reported that Mr. Carnegie has subscribed in England to a memorial to our late Queen. I am aware that certain Old Country towns have placed themselves under obligations to Mr. Carnegie, (probably in ignorance of his sentiments); but I cannot believe that he will be permitted to share a privilege which belongs only to those who in her lifetime loved the Queen as she deserved. Mr. Carnegie seems to think money can buy anything. I trust he will be taught that nothing can purchase our forgetfulness of indignity toward the most revered Sovereign in English history.

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