

In making these improvements, the channels and the locks should be adapted to the larger vessels navigating the lakes. These will require a depth of water of 12 or 13 feet and locks 250 by 50 feet, and the canal and locks on the St. Lawrence should be enlarged to these dimensions.

If the Canadas are unable to make the improvements described they must ask for help from the mother country.

If this is denied, then their true and only course is to strive to dissolve all political connexion with Great Britain, and having effected this, capital from the states will flow in to their assistance, the improvements needed will be speedily accomplished, and they will enter upon a career of prosperity, certain and uninterrupted, such as they can never enjoy in their present unnatural position as colonies, dependent upon, and subject to, the will of a people, living three thousand miles distant from them, a people having no interest in maintaining a political connexion with them, but such an one as will be commercially profitable in time of peace, and furnish them with men and money in time of war, regardless as to whether the war is one in which the Canadas have any interest or not.

We have in the briefest space possible endeavored to present the subject of our relations with the British Provinces on this continent in their true light, that our people may understand clearly what is proper to do or not to do in respect to any change in those relations. Our own opinion is that a masterly inactivity is our duty for the present, leaving to the Canadas the solution of the question of their future relations to us, and when they shall have done what their and our interests require in respect to the improvements named, join with them cordially in all measures which shall redound to the good of both parties. In the mean while we should carefully revise our general tariff and not hesitate, in view of the burden imposed upon us by the war, to put such duty upon importations from Canada and the other provinces now admitted free, as will give us the largest revenue. Such a duty cannot amount to prohibition but will leave a margin of profit to the Canadas less, considerably, it is true, than they