

CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES,

placed side by side by nature, must either be friends or enemies; they are too near neighbors, they have too many interests in common, too much ambition of the same kind to be indifferent to each other. I think it is time they should be friends. (Hear, hear.)

"If we look back to the past, we find that the two countries started the same year in the race for life. Quebec and Jamestown of Virginia, were both founded in 1608. Now England was planted later on. The young Colonies were not out of their leading strings when they began that long series of wars which only ended by the cession of Canada. These were hard times, when force reigned supreme, when the life of man was counted for very little; when both countries seemed to borrow the ferocity of the Indians. Your ancestors were accused of having sent the Mohawks to butcher, in the dead of night, the inhabitants of Lachine. My ancestors retaliated by sending expeditions against Deerfield and Haverhill, to accomplish massacres which were considered great deeds in those times. And to think that Canadians have travelled, for that glorious deed, all the way from Montreal to Massachusetts on snowshoes, in the middle of winter! Finally the seven years war put an end to the struggle and you came out victors. The colony of New France, had practically been abandoned by the Mother Country, who did not much value "these few acres of snow," as Voltaire called Canada. It was from Boston, and, therefore, from the territory of Rhode Island, that the hardest blows were directed against New France. It was so much so that the English colonists were known in Canada, not as the Americans, but as the Bostonians (les Bostonnais), a name by which the people of the United States were known along the shores of the St. Lawrence, up to a very few years ago.

"One feature has always struck me when reading the history of these eventful times; it is the strange, if not the deep diplomacy by which your forefathers alternately used England to turn the French out of Canada, and then used the power of France to drive the English out of this country.

"But, gentlemen, that is the history of the past, and, thank Heaven, it is forgotten, in this sense, that no evil feeling survives those terrible times. I am not exaggerating when I say that there is no nation under the sun that has more prestige in the eyes of the Canadians than the Americans. We share the admiration of the world for your greatness, your progress, your institutions, which we would envy if we did not enjoy the same liberties as those you are blessed with. Like the United States, Canada is a democracy organized on a liberal basis, where the race for power, wealth and honors is open to all; where men at the helm to-day have mostly all come from the humblest ranks of society.

"And, now, gentlemen, let me again turn back to the pages of history and, from its teachings, explain to you the real "struggle in Canada" and the true position of "Canada as it is." Let me show you the true issue which lately returned to power those who are now ruling our country, and clear away from your minds those mists of misconception which our enemies have thrown around it in order to disguise their own folly and failure. Let me tell you of some of the people who founded my Northland home. Very little