

from the events of the past few months—I say we may be proud that our career as an isolated colony will terminate in such a spirit. Finally, I think it will be well if in the last session of the Provincial Parliament of Canada we shall have been able to approximate in some measure to that system of political economy which is bearing such magnificent fruits in the mother country—to remove some of the burdens which weigh on the industry of the people, and to open new markets for their products. (Hear.) If we have lost the markets of the United States, we have at the same time shown our desire to open new channels by which the products of our people may reach other countries. We have not merely confined ourselves to an investigation—carried on though it has been under the personal supervision of one of the members of the Government—but we now hold forth the olive branch to the mother country, showing by our legislation and our official acts our disposition to join with her in carrying out a truly liberal policy. If there is one thing more than another which will soon bring our American friends to reason—for I shall always continue to call them friends though for the moment they are commercially estranged, and I shall always desire to renew with them our former intercourse—if there is one thing I say which will bring them round to a sense of the commercial relations which ought to exist, it is the feeling that we are to a certain extent adopting a course which will make us independent of them. (Hear, hear.) If there was one thing more than another, apart from the irritation growing out of the events which happened during the late war, which instigated them in abrogating the Reciprocity Treaty, it was the belief that they could compel us into a closer political alliance with them. It is therefore desirable, and indeed our manifest duty to show them, not in a spirit of hostility, but certainly in that of independence, that while we value their friendship, and value their trade, we will not conform to unreasonable terms and will not have either our commercial policy or our political allegiance dictated to us by any foreign country. (Cheers.)



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