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apples from there and they were good, and that helped me to remember that there was a beneficent country nearby. I had heard of Quebec, inhabited by Frenchmen; I had also heard of Ontario, and in a somewhat distant and reminiscent manner, I had heard an echo of a Province by the name of British Columbia, which was situated somewhere afar off near the Pacific; but I never troubled myself about it then.

Then confederation came up, and I have followed the history of the development of Canada from that time till now, and have been present at all its phases, and with you, have followed it with intense interest and great delight. Our country of Canada has had its periods of development. It commenced away back in the sparsely settled patches and in the unmorgnized stretches of country, gradually developed into a crown colony, when it was controlled entirely from Downing Street, or whatever represented Downing Street in those days.

Growth of the Dominion

These grew into responsible provinces, and then these provinces, four of them, made up the first restricted area of the Dominion of Canada under the new confederation, and then fresh territory was added, and then fresh provinces were carved out, until today we have the wide, opulent and mighty Dominion. We take millions of sturdy, strong, sensible race, or aggregation of races, with all the modern mechanism for transport and communication and intercourse and education, religious teaching, scientific research, schools, colleges, universities, all the adjuncts and all the accessories of advanced civilization. All that time, the onlooker from abroad was justified in saying what did say: 'Why, this all means that Canada is growing away from the Empire, becoming independent, managing her own affairs and resources, developing into a stronger race, a stronger aggregation of provinces, and developing into something like a nationality. There is only one step more,

and that will mean separation.' That is what was said.

Influence of Blood

But there was another influence at work, the influence of blood and race, which is stronger and more pervasive and persistent, and has been so from the dawn of political institutions in this world, and will continue so as long as the world lasts. (Applause.) There was also the pride of language and literature instilling its lessons in the hearts of those who read.

Then there was the ever-present sureness of what we needed, protection in our infantile days and our younger years; the ever-present sureness of army and navy that was able to protect and defend. (Applause.) Then, outside of that and intermingling with it were commercial transactions, the commerce which naturally flowed from the Motherland to the colonies and back again. Then came the bonds of financial interests, and so another tie was added to those silent bonds. Later came other feelings and thoughts.

Away in South Africa, the clouds of war arose on the horizon and the blare of trumpets bore within their sound the menace and the threat that British power and prestige would be driven into the sea. That fired the blood of the people of Canada and the other Dominions Overseas. Our kin drew their resolutions to the point, made their exits from their lands, marshalled themselves side by side, and left some of them their lives and consecrated many of them by their blood territory which was alien to them, but which ever after, will be sacred because of that fact. (Applause.)

Imperial Conference

Then came the Imperial Conferences, where men from these Dominions met in consultation for the good of their several states and that of the Empire. So there was a bond of counsel, judgment, suggestive help and disension.

These were the silent influencees which worked to draw us together, as