

quote again to you to-night, seeing that it contains the testimony of an eminent man to certain facts which every true Canadian, young or old, must always peruse with pleasure and with pride. Mr. Wells speaks thus:—

“North of Lakes Erie and Ontario, and of the River St. Lawrence, and east of Lake Huron, south of the 45th parallel of latitude, and included mainly in the present Dominion of Canada, there is as fair a country as exists on the American continent—nearly as large in area as New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio combined, and equal, if not superior, as a whole, to those States, in agricultural capability. It is the natural habitat on this continent of the combing-wool sheep. It is the land where grows the finest barley, which the brewing interest of the United States must have if it ever expects to rival Great Britain in its annual export of eleven millions sterling of malt products. It raises and grazes the finest of cattle, with qualities specially desirable to make good the deterioration of stock in other sections, and its climatic conditions, created by an almost encirclement of the great lakes, especially fit it to *grow men*. Such a country is one of the greatest gifts of Providence to the human race; better than bonanzas of silver or rivers whose sands run gold.”

(Loud and prolonged applause.)

Sir, for my part, I do not think the people who possess such a country need much artificial protection, but let that pass. Mr. Chairman, it may be that I want too many things. I want to see Canada a cheap country; I want to see Canada a pleasant country to live in; I want to see my countrymen use their great advantages to develop themselves into the finest men, and my countrywomen into the fairest women, not only in North America, but in the whole world. (Great cheering.) If we cannot have quantity, let us make up for it in quality, and so I would like to see every young Canadian not only able to do a good day's work, but also able to think and speak and act for himself,

#### ABLE TO SHOOT AND TO SWIM,

and to ride, and to enjoy camp life in the open air. (Renewed cheers.) At home equally on the farm or in the workshops; in the library and the debating room; in the gymnasium and in the glee club—and in my lady's parlour. (Applause.) Briefly, I would have my young Canadian countrymen so train and educate themselves as to grow into men worthy of inhabiting the land Mr. Wells so eloquently describes; and my young Canadian countrywomen so train and educate themselves as to fit themselves to be helpmates and guardian and household angels for such men, and yet, withal, continue to be true women still—

“Creatures not too bright and good  
For human nature's daily food;  
But perfect women, nobly planned,  
To warn, to comfort, to command.”