

WHAT OF CANADA?

interfere, Panama which cannot call its soul its own, the black republic of Hayti in the paternal charge of an American Commodore—all these and many from the east and west may sit down with the United States in Council, but the children of the Kingdom are to be cast out into outer darkness.

The "Reservation" filled thinking Canadians with wonder and those who loved the American people, and they are a very great majority, with a feeling little short of incredulity. We had believed that Americans looked upon Canadians with affection, we had thought that the valour of our sons had won us your respect, that our terrible losses had proved our devotion to a common cause and shown that we were deserving of respect; we knew that all the rest of the world acknowledged, gladly acknowledged, our new status and caring nothing for Venezuela—no, I do Venezuela injustice, it was Ecuador—we were perplexed at the slur cast on us by our nearest and most familiar friend—whom we had considered bone of our bone, flesh of our flesh. We asked ourselves what it meant, and conscious that we were guiltless of wrong in word and deed toward the United States, we sought further. It cannot be that the action of the Senate is due to political—or rather partisan feeling. I for one refuse to believe that Senators representing a great people and performing the most important duty which has ever been cast upon any body of men can possibly degrade their high office by shaping their conduct by party expediency alone. There may of course be some tincture of that, there may be a desire to chasten a political opponent, and in that regard the old Southern doctrine may be allowed: "Every man has the right to lick his own nigger.", there is a great deal of human nature in man and the President may not have always been conciliatory or considerate of the other Party, but it would be an insult to the intelligence and honesty of the majority of the Senate to say that "It is all politics."

Nor could it be from ill will toward Canada or Canadians.

From the very formation of the United States of America, its people have shown their friendship in a thousand ways—nay, before the Declaration of Independence itself, this was manifested.

Canada, indeed, had been acquired by Britain mainly for the advantage of the Thirteen Colonies and the South. Britain when it came to the negotiation of the Treaty of 1763 with France preferred the Island of Guadeloupe to the "few arpents of snow" which Canada was believed to be,