

recognize very clearly the political and commercial importance of an alliance of the British people with the United States. Sir, thirty years ago the people of the United States mustered 30,000,000. To-day they have grown to 80,000,000. I do not suppose that this rate of increase will be quite as rapid in the future. In the next thirty years, however, some now here may see that great nation of 80,000,000 grow to 120,000,000. If there be any public man in Canada who says that Canada or the British people can afford to despise the good will of such a people I cannot find Parliamentary language in which to express my opinion of such a person. If there is any man of business who says trade with such a nation is of no object, he is only serving some selfish ends in attempting to undervalue the immense importance of such a market to us if it can be secured on fair and reasonable conditions.

THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE.

I have to ask the people of Canada one further question. Who are more likely to accomplish these ends, who are best fitted to deal with these questions and these problems? Are they the men who in seven years have placed Canada where she is, who have in seven years made Canada famous, whose names are known wherever the English tongue is spoken? Or is it mediocrates hardly ever mentioned outside their own parish—(laughter)—the gentlemen who recently kept us for seven months of Parliament, chattering from snowfall to snowfall, and in those seven months did not give utterance to one single phrase which was worthy to live a single day, or propose any project which was worth considering for an hour? (Laughter.) Sir, I put it in two words: Shall it be Laurier, or shall it be Borden? Will you have the great Canadian or the little one? Sir, it is a good rule, every man to his own place. I like the rule. Mr. Borden's friends have demonstrated and contended continually that Mr. Borden has many excellent qualities for a leader of the Opposition. Let him stay there. Let Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who has likewise demonstrated in the eyes of good judges his ability, let him continue to guide the destinies of Canada. (Applause.)