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**SELF-DEPENDENCE AND SELF-RESPECT.**

This journal has frequently directed attention to the fact that the tariff laws of Canada were modelled very closely along the lines observed in the United States tariff: that had it not been that tariff protection prevailed in that country we would never have adopted it in this; that our conditions are of such a sensitive character that changes in the American tariff quickly and perceptibly affect Canada, and that Canada could not long hold to protection if it were entirely abandoned in the United States. These are facts over which we have no more control than the ocean has over the influences of the moon which forces the irresistible tides around the earth twice in every twenty-four hours. But while these facts are patent to us, and while we recognize the full force and value of them, it is none the less our duty to bend ourselves vigorously to the oars and do all we can in bringing our ship into port, and not allowing her to be carried whithersoever the current might direct. Therefore, Canada has been no indifferent observer of the course of political affairs in the United States, particularly since the inauguration of the McKinley idea of protection, and to the result of the presidential contest just closed. Students

of affairs have long since observed that for certain reasons the politicians of the United States Republican as well as Democrat have maintained a settled policy in a certain direction. We know that there are more Irishmen in the United States than there are in Ireland, and that they are voters. We know that these men believe that they were driven to expatriation by the oppression of the British Government, or at last they have been taught this, and they have been taught to hate Great Britain and everything affiliated with the Mother Country. We do not discuss the justice or injustice of this phase of the situation. We know that if an American orator desires to make an impression on an audience, he cannot do so more successfully than by twisting the tail of the British lion. Canada being politically connected with Britain, and this anti-British feeling prevailing in the United States, as a matter of course any unfriendly feelings our neighbors may entertain towards the Mother Country is generously and bountifully extended to Canada. Else why the Fenian raids of a few years ago? We know also of the greedy and grasping disposition of our neighbors. They knew that the roll of the British drum follows the sun around the world, and that there is no hour in the twenty-four that the shining sun does not kiss and welcome the folds of the British flag. Of course they can never hope for such a thing for their Stars and Stripes; but they hug themselves with the delusion that at some day in the not far distant future all people on the North American continent will accept their laws from Washington, and that their flag will be raised to the utmost height of the North Pole. The outstretched wings of their symbolic eagle now extends from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and while the bird swishes its tail in the waters of the Gulf of Mexico, although its longing glance is in the direction of the polar regions, the farthest north it can now stretch its neck only enables it to dip its beak into the southern sides of the Great Lakes. There are as fair fields beyond its reach as any beneath the shadow of its wings, and it covets them. The greed of the American people, and their hatred of Britain, makes them desire the acquisition of Canada.

Under these circumstances what acts of neighborly kindness may Canada expect from the United States? None whatever; that is to say, none but such as may be instigated by selfish and mercenary motives. If Canada expects or ever hopes that she will be treated under a Democratic administration with any more consideration than she was under a Republican administration, let her be undeceived. One of the last official acts of Mr. Cleveland, before he was succeeded by Mr. Harrison, was to issue a threat against Canada; and one of Mr. Harrison's late official acts, while about being superseded by Mr. Cleveland, was to strike a mean, unfriendly and uncalled-for blow at Canadian commerce. And such will be the programme as long as the politicians of that country seek and gain popularity by twisting the tail of the British lion; by threats of dislodging the British flag from the continent, and by scheming to annex Canada to the United States.

The situation calls for an exhibition of all the dignity and self-respect that Canadians possess. We would like to be on friendly terms with our neighbors, and to do business with them with as little friction as possible, but as long as we refuse to withdraw our allegiance to the British Crown—refuse to