

wildernesses; remember the thousands who chose to suffer the afflictions of the backwoods rather than remain in luxury with those who had forsaken the Flag; count, however incompletely, the elements of privation, of courage, of foresight, of unconquerable enterprise, that men like you and me threw into the crucible wherein the mould of Canada has taken its shape, and you will see that they were bound to produce two effects outside the Dominion—one on the United Kingdom, the other on the United States.

FAMOUS POLITICAL SENTENCE.

In the United Kingdom there was a Great Indifference to Canada. Statesmen who were Statesmen unfeignedly believed that her destiny was with the Republic—which is a fine encouragement for the rest of us to be statesmen by right of our own thinking. The Indifference disappeared—wonderfully disappeared. You might be cynical and say it was purely a matter of advertising. You would be wrong. There is more behind the advertising than the lure of a hundred and sixty acres of land, miles away from the railroad.

There is the integrity of British Institutions, the appeal of the British Character, the guarantee of the British Flag—the things that were secured by the devotion of men long since dead, thousands and thousands of whom lived in obscurity and died in little clearings encumbered with debt. Sir John Macdonald wrote the most famous sentence in Canadian politics, “A British subject I was born, a British subject I will die.” He only wrote what thousands of men and women had lived and clung to and hallowed in backwoods that have been transformed into landscapes worthy of the Weald of Kent. The blood of the martyrs became the seed of the church. The devotion of the pioneers cemented the foundation on which has been reared the structure under which you and I have found shelter, and a good content; and to which we came veritably as to a second and a better home.

TARIFF WALL THAT WORKED.

The effect of the rise of Canada on the United States has been, in a way, more remarkable than the result produced in Great Britain. The people “down there” regarded Canada generally with indifference, and often with amusement; until the physical works which were the outward and visible expression of the inner spirit of the Canadian people, were seen to afford great opportunities for trade and agriculture.

One method of increasing the young nation’s chance of success had been to answer the United States tariff with a tariff which compelled the building of branch factories on the Canadian side of the border. It was remarkably successful. In the West there was illimitable land, fertile and cheap, to which farmers from the United States were welcomed. They settled on it in thousands. They found the Canadian-British exposition of justice, of civic administration, of the best amenities of life, more pleasing than in the States they had left, and tens of thousands of them