

tion of exchanges. The movements of commerce are along parallels and across zones of different climates always. The North has what the South lacks, and the South is wasteful of what the North lavishes gold for. This mutual want and fulness is mother of trade and of those thrifty exchanges which bring wealth to traders. Commerce is as the two Adams in Scripture. One is of the earth, earthy; the other is of heaven, heavenly. In its nobler phase and ultimate end, commerce is fraternization of the peoples of the world: the bringing of them into unity by first bringing them into base contact. From lower they work up to higher. Chasing a dollar, they run into heaven unawares. And any line which, being drawn, checks freest commerce, checks the fraternization of men, and thereby thwarts the end of empire, which has this for its noblest object: the bringing of men together in gainful trade, that they may learn the sweet lesson that Brotherhood is greatest profit and so through commerce grow fraternal.

This great question of continental unity has a history. Let me remind you of it.

France in the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries reached, in the splendor of her conceptions and the vigor of her conduct, the acme of her development. Her sun was at its zenith, and its heat and light went round the world. In those three hundred years French character was thoroughly masculine. It was hot with fiery zeal: haughtily courageous and ridged with muscular endurance. It conceived great plans. It executed them greatly. It pushed its explorations into every zone, and sailed with noble seamanship the parallels of the world. In one hand her children