

many of their public men, and among them I number many friends. As a whole the Canadian people are proud; back of them is a great history; ahead of them, under fair conditions, is a great future. This they know. This they feel. I need only say that the gentlemen who now, in wit, in culture, in wealth, in skill, in patriotism, represent Canada, are not of the sort that can be bought. They do not propose to sell their country or assist in putting it up for sale. This applies, friends, to all parties and sects, and you can build your plans on it as a fact. If you build on other foundation you will only construct a Babel, which, when you shall have pushed it up, as it would seem, to the skies, will suddenly tumble upon you, bringing ruin and confusion as it falls.

Nor would any arrangement like reciprocity be satisfactory to either country. It would be only a temporary makeshift; a plan to satisfy the greed of traffic, and not to settle a question of Empire. It would have for its parents nothing worthier than considerations of dollars and cents, and being thus basely born, would live a snarling life and die soon. Commerce is vitally connected with the settlement of this question, but it never can be settled on the commercial basis. For our commercial relations with Canadians are but a part,—a very small part,—of the question between us: the real one, the great, grave one is, what is to be their political, their governmental, their military relations to us, and hence it is vain to make any settlement which settles only the part, the smallest part, of the difficulty, but leaves the major part of the problem unsolved, nay, unconsidered. I may be mistaken, but I believe that Commercial