

wholly imaginary, there are plenty of the sort in real life. There are other cases not so bad as this in which young men of very good parts and of earnest purpose seem actually to be hindered in a way because their fathers were such good and strong men. They are in bondage to the traditions of their fathers; they dare not think outside the lives of their fathers' thinking; they are rather inferior second editions to their fathers: they never seem to strike right out fearlessly for themselves. Now if it is, or should come to be, possible to apply this illustration to Canada, a child of so illustrious a progenitor as Great Britain, then surely an advantage would have been turned into a serious disadvantage.

Whatever may be said about the American Republic, at any rate the foregoing illustration has no application to it. It has struck out for itself, has achieved a national life and character of its own, and has made for itself a large place amongst the nations of the earth.

It will be a disadvantage to the young Canadian as a student if he should think that there is nothing much to learn beside what is British, if he should be at all satisfied to limit himself in this way. History did not begin with Alfred the Great: the interest of European countries is not all summed up in their wars with and relations to Great Britain; there is a world of literature outside the English tongue, and there are places worth visiting and things worth seeing by the traveller from this western world besides what England and Scotland contain. On coming to the United States one soon perceives how ambitious, how cosmopolitan the people are as regards their acquisition of knowledge. The schoolboy may be brought up upon what is exclusively American, but as soon as he enters college his horizon enlarges until in the end he takes in *the earth*. Modern languages are studied very widely here: the best German, French and Italian authors are familiarly known by many; the development of European history is studied in the most scientific fashion. A multitude of American students start for Europe as soon as they graduate here to spend one, two or three years in further study there; and as to the *intelligent* American traveller he ransacks Europe everywhere equally with England and Scotland. The Canadian student will make a mistake if he aims only at being a feeble imitation of an Oxford or Cambridge graduate. Here at any rate Canadian independence