

able whale and walrus fisheries. Through the straits connecting Hudson's Bay with the Atlantic is likely at no distant day a great commerce from the wheat fields yet to be brought under cultivation, from the forests, and from the mines to the west of this inland sea. The great Northern lakes, Great Slave Lake, Great Bear Lake, Athabaska Lake, and scores of others teem with fish of the finest quality; and the country is a wilderness of lakes and streams almost throughout the entire limit of the Dominion, and especially within the Laurentian portion of it. It is a pleasant, picturesque land, with vast capabilities, admirably adapted to be the home of a virile and liberty-loving people.

The institutions of the country are modelled after those of Great Britain. Canada has the same features in regard to responsible government. It has the same parliamentary rules and usages, and a ministry directly responsible to the representatives of the people, having control of the Government and holding office only upon the condition of commanding a majority in the House of Commons. The experiment of the growth of institutions, distinctly British in form and spirit, alongside of the institutions of the Great Republic, will afford a study of deep interest to students of the science of government in the future; and it may be believed that each will exercise modifying and salutary influences upon the other.

The loyalty of Canada to the British Empire, and the devotion of almost its entire population to British institutions, are possibly surprising to the people of the United States. American proximity and the interblending of interests had naturally led to the expectation that the two countries might gravitate toward each other. Immediately after the repeal of the corn laws in England an annexation sentiment of very pronounced character was manifested in Canada; and the celebrated annexation manifesto of 1849 was signed by a great number of leading public men, who afterward repudiated their action in that respect. During the continuance of the Reciprocity Treaty of 1854 to 1866, the volume of commercial transactions between the two countries increased rapidly; leading naturally to intimate social relations and to a feeling of friendliness and sympathy on the part of a considerable portion of the Canadian population toward the United States. A remarkable proof of this sentiment is the fact that over forty thousand Canadians served in the American army during the war of the rebellion.

Immediately following the abrogation by the United States of the