

malities of the interview by the Anglo-Saxon ceremony of shaking hands. The proceedings were of "admirable length," certainly not exceeding fifteen minutes; and yet, as I recall them, I have seldom witnessed a more striking tableau vivant.

Two hours later, from the steps of the Capitol, Seward addressed the citizens of Minnesota in a speech which to this day attracts more attention on both continents than any single discourse of his life. How constantly in the London press do we hear the changes rung on these memorable sentiments?

"I can stand here and look far into the North-West, and see the Russian as he busily occupies himself in establishing sea-ports and towns and fortifications, as outposts of the Empire of St. Petersburg, and I can say "go on; build up your out-posts to the Arctic Ocean; they will yet become the out-posts of my own country, to extend the civilization of my own country, to extend the civilization of the United States in the North-West." So I look upon Prince Rupert's Land and Canada, and see how an ingenious people and a capable and enlightened government are occupied with bridging rivers and building railroads to develop, organize, create and preserve the British Provinces of the North, by the Great Lakes, the St. Lawrence, and around the shores of Hudson's Bay; and I am able to say "it is very well; you are building excellent states, to be hereafter admitted into the American Union."

I was in Washington between the date of this and another speech of his to which I shall presently refer, and while yet Mr. Seward, then Secretary of State, believed in his prediction of 1860, and was honored by an introduction to the great statesman, who was then busy with his scheme for the purchase of Alaska. The angry looking scar of a dirk wound he had received in the neck from a would-be assassin was still fresh; but he had many questions to ask about this country, and after shewing me an Alaskan kyack, spear, bone implements, and many curiosities, recently sent to him, he stood with me before a large map of the continent and said