

little biased by his love of country—who feels for the land of his birth or adoption some warmer attachment that may perhaps accord with sober reason. He may judge of it as he judges of the cottage home of his boyish days, as he judges of the purling streams and flowery meads, by which his early life was spent, where every hill, every tree, every curve of the meandering brook, is associated with and recalls the image of some loved companion of early days, long parted with in the struggles of life, but still dear to memory. What though affection may mislead the judgment? What though these pictures are seen through a poetic mirage which affects *his* vision only—still a thousand times rather would I see this error than the other. We can pardon a mistake of the head for which the heart is accountable, but it is impossible to have compassion for the pitiful meanness which is ashamed of its country. Everybody despises the poltroon who seeks to raise himself by disparaging the land he lives in.

But it is gratifying to feel that our Province requires from its sons no devotion which is not amply justified by its character and capabilities. No Province in the Dominion has a greater variety of industrial resources. None has its resources, whatever they may be, in a position so easily available.

The sea which surrounds us on all sides, except where a narrow neck of land connects us with the continent, indents our coasts with bays and harbors, extending far inland and bringing every part of the Province within a few miles of navigable water. This, of itself, determines to a large extent the maritime character of much of our industry. From the forests scattered along the shores of these inland waters—forests which would have grown and perished but for the facilities the waters afford—are fashioned the ships which form so important a feature in the business of our people—ships whose sails whiten every sea, and whose earnings create an ever recurring stream of wealth pouring into the towns and villages of our sea girt Province. Then, again, in many parts of the country vast deposits of coal jut out on the sea board, presenting in the position the most favorable for distribution and exportation that commodity, which more than any other in these northern latitudes, is indispensable for comfort, but which, indispensable though it be, is found in no other Province or State on the Atlantic seaboard.

Then, again, the seas which line our shores afford an enormous area from which our people gather a crop, never requiring to be sown, yet always ready, in proper season, to be reaped—a crop which, in the year just past, besides furnishing directly a large amount of food for our own people, gave us an export worth three and a half millions (\$3,500,000) to send abroad to be exchanged for the productions of other countries, making freights for our ships and employment for our seamen. In a country thus rejoicing in the elements which create and sustain a maritime population it is pleasing to feel that our people have had the energy to use their privileges. We can,