

CANADA GETS THE BEST.

True, the United States immigration of late has been large, but no men know better than the United States that it is composed of what, without any breach of charity, I may call the inferior races of Europe, that the immigration of Scandinavia, that the immigration of England, of Scotland, and of the northern portions of Europe has ceased almost entirely to find its way to the United States. If it comes at all it comes to us in vastly greater proportion than it comes to the United States. (Applause.) Sir, I say this because, whether that policy is a wise policy or not, we have put our hand to the plough, and I feel perfectly certain that no true lover of his country will be in the least inclined to think that we ought to draw back. And if there are any here or elsewhere that think I am exaggerating our possibilities, I ask them again to look at the United States and they will see there, not once or twice, but a dozen times over an equal growth has taken place in the border States of the Union in an even shorter space of time.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, there is another subject on which I would like to say a few words to you, if I do not exhaust your patience. I have talked so far to you of our domestic politics, and our domestic politics alone. I have intimated to you that there are great and important questions in the air, and that the example of Canada may chance to be a determining factor as to the way in which these questions will be decided. I speak here with some hesitation. I know well enough that what I am going to say may be misunderstood by some parties whose opinions I value. I am perfectly certain that what I am going to say will very likely be misconstrued by others for other reasons. These are risks which statesmen who desire to do their duty by their country must sometimes take, and I have never yet hesitated to express my opinion when I thought that the welfare of my country demanded that I should express it. (Applause.) I say, sir, that there are great things in the air. I say that there are great problems to be solved. I say that these will greatly effect the future of Canada, and I say that it is probable that whether we will or no we must take more or less part in disposing of them.