

Canada have I found a better feeling between all classes and sections of the community. [Cheers.] It is in a great measure owing to this wide spread sentiment of brotherhood that on a recent occasion great troubles have been averted, while at the present moment it is finding its crowning and most triumphant expression in the establishment of a university under conditions which have been found impossible of application in any other Province of Canada—I may say in any other country in the world—for nowhere else, either in Europe or on this continent, as far as I am aware, have the bishops and heads of the various religious communities into which the Christian world is so unhappily divided, combined to erect an *alma mater* to which all the denominational colleges of the Province are to be affiliated [great applause.] and whose statutes and degrees are to be regulated and dispensed under the joint auspices of a government body, in which all the land will be represented. An achievement of this kind speaks volumes in favor of wisdom, liberality, and the Christian charity of these devoted men by whom in this distant land, the consciences of the population are led and enlightened; long may they be spared to see the effects of their exertions and magnanimous sacrifices in the good conduct and grateful devotion of their respective flocks. [Loud applause.]

Nor, I am happy to think, is this good fellowship upon which I have so much cause to congratulate you, confined either within the limits of the Province or those of the Dominion. Nothing struck me more on my way through St. Paul, in

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than the sympathetic manner in which the inhabitants of that flourishing city alluded to the progress and prospects of Canada and the northwest [great applause] and on arriving here I was equally struck by finding even a more exuberant counterpart of those friendly sentiments. [Renewed applause.] The reason is not far to seek. Quite independently of the genial intercourse promoted by neighborhood, and the intergrowth of commercial relations, a bond of sympathy between the two populations is created by the consciousness that they are both engaged in an enterprise of world-wide importance, that they are

both organized corps in the ranks of humanity, and the wings of a great army, marching in line on a level front, that they are both engaged in advancing the standard of civilization westwards [applause], that for many a year to come they will be associated in the task of converting the breadths of prairie that stretch between them and the setting sun into one vast paradise of international peace, of domestic happiness, and material plenty. Between two communities thus occupied it is impossible but that amity and loving kindness should be begotten. [Applause.]

But perhaps it will be asked how can I, who am the natural and official guardian of Canada's virtue, mark with satisfaction such dangerously sentimental proclivities towards her seductive neighbor! I will reply by appealing to those experienced matrons and chaperones I see around me. They will tell you that, when a young lady expresses her frank admiration for a man, when she welcomes his approach with unconstrained pleasure, crosses the room to sit down beside him, presses him to join her picnic, praises him to her friends, there is not the slightest fear of her affections having been surreptitiously ensnared by the gay deceiver. [Great laughter.] On the contrary, it is when she can scarcely be brought to mention his name—[renewed laughter]—when she avoids his society, when she alludes to him with malice and disparagement, that real danger is to be apprehended. [Uproarious laughter and applause.] No, no! Canada both loves and admires the United States, but it is with the friendly, frank affection which a heart-whole maiden feels for some big, boisterous, young cousin, fresh from school, and elate with animal spirits and good nature. [Laughter.] She knows he is stronger and more muscular than herself, has lots of pocket money, can smoke cigars and loaf around in public places in an ostentatious manner forbidden to the decorum of her own situation. [Great laughter.] She admires him for his bigness and strength, and prosperity; she likes to hear of his punching the heads of other boys [renewed laughter], she anticipates and will be proud of his future success in life, she loves him for his affectionate and loyal friendship for herself, and perhaps a little laughs at him for the patronizing

air with which he expresses it. [Roars of laughter.]

But of no nearer connection does she dream, nor does his bulky image for a moment disturb her virginal meditations. In a world apart, secluded from all extraneous influences, nestling at the feet of her majestic mother, Canada, dreams her dream, and forbodes her destiny—a dream of ever-blooming harvests, multiplying towns and villages, and expanding pastures; of constitutional self-government, and a confederated empire; of page after page of honorable history, added as her contribution to the annals of the mother country, and to the glories of the British race [tremendous applause.] of a perpetuation for all time upon this continent of that temperate and well-balanced system of monarchical government, which combines in one mighty whole as the eternal possession of all Englishmen, the brilliant history and traditions of the past, with the freest and most untrammelled liberty of action in the future. [Long continued applause and cheers.] Ladies and gentlemen, I have now done. I have to thank you for the patience with which you have listened to me, and once again for the many kindnesses you have done Lady Dufferin and myself during our stay amongst you. Most heartily do I congratulate you upon all that you are doing; and upon the glorious prospect of prosperity which is opening out on every side of you. [Applause.] Though elsewhere in the Dominion stagnation of trade and commerce has checked for a year or two the general advance of Canada, here at least you have escaped the effects of such sinister incidents, for your welfare being based upon the most solid of all foundations, the cultivation of the soil, you are in a position to pursue the even tenor of your way untroubled by those alterations of fortune which disturb the world of trade and manufacture. You have been blessed with an abundant harvest and soon I trust will a railway come to carry to those who need it the surplus of your produce, now, as my own eyes have witnessed—imprisoned in your storehouses for want of the means of transport. May the expanding finances of the country soon place the Government in a position to gratify your just and natural expectations. [Loud cheers and applause.]