

because every one would know that such a liaison could not last long and there would be fear that the difference of opinion among Canadians would lead to a civil war. The Canadian people would have to contribute their share of the cost of the international parliament in addition to maintaining their own Dominion Parliament and the Provincial legislatures. They could not expect to greatly extend their foreign trade, for the British representatives in various quarters of the world would be slow to assist a people who discriminated against Great Britain in favor of the United States, and Canada could not afford to maintain a foreign diplomatic and consular service of her own. Indeed, in order to carry on the Government of the country and meet its obligations, it would be necessary to resort to direct taxation to raise about fifteen million dollars of revenue, lost by the abolition of the customs houses along the Canadian-American boundary. Heavily taxed, suffering from loss of trade, and despised alike by British and Americans on account of their dependent position and the sale of their birthright, Canadians would very soon wish to end the liaison. But the only ending that the United States could agree to would be annexation, and to that the majority of Canadians would not be disposed to consent. Although they would be themselves to blame for their misfortunes, there would be a strong disposition to charge the Americans with having cheated them. One party would favor annexation, the other would bitterly oppose it, and civil war would be the result. The United States would have no choice in the matter. To save the republic the conquest of Canada would be necessary, and, although the Canadians would be divided against themselves, and could not expect any assistance from Great Britain after discriminating against that country in favor of the United States, they would not submit until the country was overrun by American soldiers. If the United States waged war against Canada before the formation of such a liaison the Canadian people would be united against the invaders and have the British to back them, while by persuading them to adopt commercial union they could be set against each other and cut off from England; but surely the American people are too generous to wish to take their neighbors at such a disadvantage. They would be obliged to do so in self-defense if the liaison were formed, but they are too sensible to enter into an arrangement which would result in that way.

Let us have no halfway measures. In favor of honorable, voluntary annexation some very strong arguments can be adduced if we accept Mr. Goldwin Smith's map, but not one sensible reason can be given for a Canadian-American liaison which, while causing an extraordinary growth for a few years in the American cities at or near the Canadian boundary,