

**TWO SPEECHES ON OUR HOME AND
COLONIAL AFFAIRS, OUR NATIONAL
RESOURCES, THEIR PRESENT AND
PROBABLE FUTURE CONDITION; AND THE
BRITISH COLONIES, THEIR PRESENT
CONDITION AND FUTURE PROSPECTS**

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Two speeches on our home and colonial affairs, our national resources, their present and probable future condition; and The British colonies, their present condition and future prospects by Alexander Robertson

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ALEXANDER ROBERTSON

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ON

OUR HOME AND COLONIAL AFFAIRS.



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TWO SPEECHES
OR
OUR HOME AND COLONIAL
AFFAIRS.

OUR NATIONAL RESOURCES:
THEIR PRESENT AND PROBABLE FUTURE CONDITION;

AND

THE BRITISH COLONIES:
THEIR PRESENT CONDITION AND FUTURE PROSPECTS:

(DELIVERED IN DUNDEE)

BY

ALEXANDER ROBERTSON, M.A.

BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

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17/11/90

TO

The Right Honourable VISCOUNT SANDON,
President of the Board of Trade.

MY LORD,

Believing that no small ignorance existed as to the National Resources of the United Kingdom, and also as to the condition of the British Colonies and Dependencies, I resolved to give to my fellow-townsmen of Dundee some information on those subjects by delivering the two following Discourses; and, having been requested to publish them, and having myself derived much advantage and instruction from the studies which I had undertaken as to our Imperial Resources, I agreed to comply with the request as early as circumstances would allow. I now submit my humble efforts to the judgment of the public at large; and, with your permission, I have much pleasure in dedicating the following pages to your Lordship.

In the subjects discussed, there is plenty of room for wide divergence of opinion, and great danger of falling into error in matters of fact. Therefore, I take this opportunity of stating that the opinions and statistics were propounded with the greatest care; that the end I had in view was a truly national, not a partizan object; and that the whole

responsibility for the contents of this pamphlet rests entirely upon my own shoulders. If I succeed in dissipating some of the gross errors as to our recent prosperity and present depression in trade and agriculture, I shall accomplish one of my chief objects in delivering, and in my now publishing the first speech. If I shall be able to raise the minds of my fellow-townsmen of Dundee—perhaps fellow-citizens in other places—to the vast extent, the gigantic resources and magnificent future of our colonies and dependencies, I shall consider my labour on the second discourse to be amply rewarded.

I am convinced that a grand future awaits our Colonies, and that there is no ground for present serious alarm in regard to the future resources of the British nation.

Sincerely thanking your Lordship for the honour you have conferred upon me by kindly authorising me to dedicate my humble efforts to spread reliable information as to the state of our affairs at home and in the British Colonies,

I have the honour to be,

MY LORD,

Your most obedient Servant,

ALEXANDER ROBERTSON.

24th March 1880,
BROUGHTY FERRY.

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