

those misguided men who have been acting the part of incendiaries throughout England and Ireland. England has already exhibited an amount of patience and conciliation towards the American Republic which she never would have shown a century ago to any power in Europe, but the time has come when she cannot consent to suffer her dignity and prestige to be further trampled upon by the mad Democracy of the West.

A few months ago Mr. Howe told the people of England in one of his public letters,* "that in the United States we find our most formidable commercial rival, and, as matters stand, *our least reliable friend and ally*" and that "in the present temper of the Republic we have no security for peace." What he wrote then has a peculiar significance now. It is only too true that, as things are now in the United States, "we have no security for peace." Is this then the time to create disaffection among the people of this dependency, and to avert their sympathies from the great Empire to which we owe so much? Let every man who supports Mr. Howe and his party then weigh well the consequences of their present policy, if he is desirous of acting the part of a loyal subject of the British Crown.

The statesmanlike policy for men sincerely anxious for the promotion of the public welfare would be, not to keep this country in a constant state of agitation and turmoil, but to point out in what respects they think the Union Act is defective and to make an effort to remove those defects. If they approach the British Government in a temperate and dignified manner, and can prove that the scheme actually bears hardly upon this Province, then their attitude will be different to what it is now. If the Act is so injurious to the best interests of this country it is of course very easy to prove it to the satisfaction of the Imperial Government and Parliament. So far, however, we have had nothing but the broadest denunciations of the measure and its promoters, and very little said or written about its merits. Is it because the measure is so perfect that these gentlemen cannot discuss and criticise it fairly, but raise false and delusive issues, for the purpose of isolating Nova Scotia from the rest of British America, and in all probability from the mother country? It is well known that this scheme has been discussed by the ablest minds of Great Britain and her dependencies on this side of the Atlantic, and has received their warm approval; but, nevertheless, it may contain very many defects which the remarkable constitutionalists connected with the local government can clearly point out to the Imperial authorities. History often repeats itself. Towards the close of last century the American States found it necessary to revise their constitution, and pass a measure which might give them greater homogeneity and power of acting in concert with one another. Then

* The Organization of the Empire. London. 1866.