

## TERRITORIAL EXPANSION OF CANADA.

If the Alaskan Boundary Award has wrought us any appreciable good whatsoever we are inclined to say that it subsists in the fact that it has written the word *Finis* to the chapter of "Colonialism" in the history of this Canada of ours. Great-minded Englishmen really wish us God-speed in taking our true national position—have we not Lord Minto's fine words now echoing in our ears from the first annual banquet of the Canadian Club in Ottawa? "If I were a Canadian I would shout 'Canada for the Canadians' with the best of you"! We have emerged from the stage of Downing Street tutelage, and claim the recognition of our untrammelled right to the management of our commerce and our territorial estate. And we feel that we may claim all this without involving the severance of that very tenuous and yet extremely tenacious tie that binds us to the mother country; for to concede what we so claim may possibly be done without the Imperial Parliament adding one iota to the autonomy Canada now enjoys, i.e., the position of a "protected State." As Mr. W. E. Hall points out in his *International Law* (3rd ed. 129), "protectorates" are new international facts; and their genera cannot be definitively grouped while political cosmogony is still in a state of flux. Therefore, we are straining no venerable definition when we venture to apply this term to Canada to-day.

We think it is not necessary here to do more in support of the view we have put forward than to refer to so authoritative a book as Lewis' *Government of Dependencies*. This book was, of course, written before the union of the British North American provinces, and consequently the author had not the opportunity of directing his criticism to the distinctive features of our constitution; but it is obvious everywhere in the book, as it originally came from the author's hand, that he would have placed Canada in a class apart from the other British possessions whose constitutions he there specifically discusses. This is made abundantly clear in the extremely able introduction by Mr. C. P. Lucas to the edition of 1891. One passage supports the point we have taken with so much force that it justifies quotation at length. After observing that Great Britain controls the foreign policy of Canada he says: "This control is exercised with the consent of Canada, not in despite of the wishes of her people; and when a