

or connivance at ecclesiastical domination ; and to begin public life by sacrificing principle to the exigencies of a Machine is to prepare for yourself a maturity of weakness and perhaps of shame.

The Young Liberals who met the Mulock Resolution with a counterblast appear to have in view Independence. That aspiration deserves our warmest sympathy, but those who cherish it must look at facts. Is there any hope of fusing British and French Canada into a nation ? Is there any hope of keeping permanently united, and at the same time separate from their continent, a string of territories, geographically divided from each other, commercially unconnected, and devoid of any natural boundary, either physical or ethnographical, such as now constitutes the Dominion ? When Mr. Blake set out to lead us to Independence, the French nationality of Quebec was not so strongly developed as it is now, nor had the fatal want of territorial compactness been brought so distinctly into view, the colonization of the North-West having then scarcely begun. Yet Mr. Blake's heart failed him and his flag was hauled down. Without a partnership of the heart, without identity of character, without community of aspiration, without anything at once to unite and to distinguish, is there any object in creating a separate community or any chance of its holding together when it has been created ? Ontario, as we have said before, might be a nation ; her population, saving the French encroachment in the East, is homogeneous and might well be raised to five millions ; her territory is sufficiently compact and its boundaries are tolerably well defined. Nor could there be any reason for fearing American aggression. But on the grander project nature seems to have set her ban. If, however, the Young Liberals and the National Club are bent on the experiment, their right course apparently is in the first instance to move for leave to Canada to elect her own Governor-General.