

nor their agents, nor, in fact, anyone having a delegated authority. A worse misfortune was that the "reformers" assumed a power of which they were ultimately deprived. The fact that they were not even thanked for their self-imposed labours, is significant of unappreciated service; only ridicule, snubbing, and rebuke have flowed from those who should have evinced gratitude. In charity, it may be asserted that the Cannon Street councillors proved themselves in advance of their times; but that their zeal was misplaced is now clearly shown by the absolute repudiation of both their words and actions in almost all the colonies. New Zealand, foremost throughout the agitation, is now in the position of realizing Mr. Fitzgerald's noble advice, that the colony "would do well and wisely to rely upon herself alone, because the duty of self-defence is a world-wide obligation among all nations and in all time." So it is with other colonies. Australia at large repudiates the vague sentiment of leaning upon the United Kingdom in mere local difficulties, and scorns the interference of those who, without authority, attempt to represent large and important interests, involving solemn questions of Imperial magnitude. In Canada, more than all, it has been shown there is a frank and noble recognition of the subject, needing no reference beyond their own legally-constituted assemblies, it being inconsistent with the rights of the colony to delegate its charter of liberty, its independence, and its future welfare to any representatives, except under careful instructions, and with a well-matured conviction that mischief and disaster will not be the consequence.