

mic and honest government. Great as must have been the mortification of Imperial and Canadian statesmen to find that a solemn compact entered into by a Government could not be carried out with justice to 3,500,000 people, whilst it involved an injustice to some few thousands on the distant shores of the Pacific,—I venture to say that no impartial Canadian politician or financier, and no sensible English critic, economist, or statesman, will look upon the conduct of the present Canadian Government in regard to this matter as dictated by anything but sound and necessary policy. As to the libel that their object was disloyal, the practical action of the Canadian Ministry, and especially of the Premier, who is the Minister of Public Works, in pushing forward communications by telegraph and by railway, and in opening the speediest route by water to the Rocky Mountains, proves that their desire is only to hasten that increase of population which will enable Canada to hold her own in agriculture, commerce, and manufactures with the rival Republic.

The Reciprocity Treaty I do not propose to discuss to-night, since it appears by a telegram that it is practically dead; but it is a very curious comment on charges of disloyalty and annexation that the proposals of the Government should have been viewed by the Protectionists of the United States with so much disfavour as to render it impossible to carry the Treaty!

Mr. Mackenzie, the Premier of Canada, has very frankly and clearly expressed his views of the future of Canada. In a speech to the Dominion Board of Trade at Ottawa, in February, 1874, he said:—

“I need not inform Mr. M'Laren and the other American delegates present, for they must, I am sure, be all conscious of it, that it is an established fact that there are to be two nationalities on this Continent. . . . It will be our policy, our ambition, to open up the country and settle our vast territories, which, we hope, will attract a large share of the immigration that is at present flowing into the United States from the old settled countries of Europe. . . . Our friends from the Western States who are present may depend upon it that no effort will be wanting on our part which energy and money can secure, to have the highway of the St. Lawrence made all that our commercial men can desire, at a comparatively early day. And when that highway is completed, instead of there being any talk about our joining the nationality to the South, perhaps a slice of that nationality may wish to join us.”