

from being indulged in without present restraint or thought for the future.

In the stability and good government of the United States with which, whether we like it or not, we necessarily have constant intercourse, we are much interested, and we should therefore hope that this new movement may effectually be "turned down" by the good sense of the American people who when in their right senses are generally capable of arriving at wise conclusions.

It may be worth while here to compare the safeguards which our form of government provides to check hasty or ill-considered legislation, or any abuse of power on the part of our legislative bodies, with those adopted by the authors of the American constitution and which we have just been considering.

We, too, have a written constitution granted to us in the B.N.A. Act, which defines the powers of the different legislative bodies by which, or, to speak more accurately in the present state of affairs, *through* which we are governed.

To the Provincial Assemblies and to the Dominion Parliament jurisdiction is given over certain subjects, and with such subjects each has full power to deal free from interference by any other body. But should any of these bodies attempt to go beyond its proper sphere of action the Supreme Court, and finally the Privy Council may be called upon to decide whether such action is *ultra vires* or not. It is further provided for the protection of private rights, and to prevent legislation either unwise in itself, or which might be injurious to the general interests of the Dominion that the government of the latter may veto any Provincial Acts of this character; and, in the early history of the Dominion, this controlling power was frequently exercised. And further the legislation of the Dominion itself is subject to revision by the Imperial Government which will, as it has done, disallow any Act which trenches on the Imperial authority, or may affect injuriously Imperial interests, and then over all is the sense of Imperial responsibility and authority which checks all tendencies to individual action inconsistent with that Imperial idea which binds the Empire together.

For a time this carefully adjusted system of checks and balances