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## CANADA AND MR. GOLDWIN SMITH.



THOSE residents in the United Kingdom who desire to maintain unimpaired the connection so happily subsisting between it and the Dominion of Canada, will naturally expect from some representative of the opinions of the vast majority of the Canadian people, a reply to Mr. Goldwin Smith's contribution to the September number of the *CONTEMPORARY REVIEW*. Notwithstanding the title of the paper, its apparent object is to prepare, those who believe in the competency of its author to make forecasts, for the separation at no distant period of the Dominion of Canada from the British Empire. He has elsewhere maintained that "ignorance of the future can hardly be good for any man or nation," and being endowed with a prescience, to which other fallible mortals lay no claim, he conceives it his duty to give timely warning of the Political Destiny of Canada. He repudiates altogether the notion that he is a revolutionist, or an annexationist. He holds that "to tax forecast with revolutionary designs or tendencies is absurd," but, on the other hand, it is "to renounce statemanship" "for those who are actually engaged in moulding the institutions of a young country, not to have formed a conception of her destiny." Holding as he does—though as it will be shown most erroneously—that Canada, owing to her position as a dependency, has incurred expenditure "for military and political railways," he thinks that this "is enough to convict Canadian rulers of flagrant improvidence," unless the permanency of the present system is clearly established in their minds. What Mr. Goldwin Smith has frequently maintained is, that Canadian policy should be based on the assumption, that the absorption of Canada in the United States is her inevitable destiny, and as it would be manifestly impossible to carry out such a policy without avowing it, most people will probably come to the conclusion that it is not altogether absurd