

distributed all along the continent, and perhaps from one end of the world to the other, to work in synchronism and with a current less than is required for ordinary telegraphing. Whether this will result in the establishment of absolute time throughout the world and the final deposition of the sun as a timepiece remains to be seen. We have found substances which are so sensitive to light that they will modify an electric current in accordance with the intensity of the light ray which strikes them—and there is the germ of the picture-telegraph. Before the next century expires, the grandsons of the present generation will see one another across the Atlantic, and the great ceremonial events of the world as they pass before the eye of the camera will be enacted at the same instant before all mankind. The use of the high-frequency electrical current, with possibly screens from outside inductive influences, is believed by many to offer at last a solution to the difficulties which prevent telephoning over long submarine cables. If this be realized, and with the transmission of images and possibly of colors over the wires likewise achieved, then the nations of the earth will indeed stand face to face and speech to speech.—*Paré Benjamin, in the New York Independent.*

ANNEXATION.—Canadians who dishonor their name and flag and country by prating annexation should peruse the ringing sentences of Hon. Joseph Howe's speeches. The great Nova Scotian spoke from a heart and head that were Canadian through and through. Upon one occasion he said :

"Could we join in the celebration of American festivals, every one of which is a disgrace to the arms that have protected us, and not oppressed us, ever since we had a hut or a foot of land to defend? Could we throw up

our caps on the 4th of July, and hail with triumph a day that made our forefathers outcasts and wanderers on the earth? Could we join heart and hand with a republic which fell upon the rear of Britain when her front was presented to hostile Europe in a struggle for the liberties of the world? Were we to permit the American flag to float over our soil, if the bodies of our fathers did not leap from the graves, their spirits would walk abroad over the land and blast us for such unnatural violation."

So much for the views of an Eastern statesman, as expressed to Canadians on our Eastern frontier; and though there is sometimes flippant talk among those who, thank God, are few in our midst, about the trade advantages, etc., we would have, were we to sink our nationality and become a laughed at part of these 'United States,' yet any feeling of desire for annexation is as dead in Central and Western Canada as Julius Cæsar; and to those who pretend that England would only be too glad to cut the tie which binds us, we commend the fact that Esquimaux is to be made the strongest fortress on the Pacific, as Halifax is on the Atlantic. Apart from loyal and patriotic considerations, why should we give up this Canada of ours just when the hard work of nation-making is over, and we have been equipped for a national career as no nation of our population has ever been equipped before; with hundreds of thousand of virgin acres of soil easily accessible by railway and water; countless leagues of pine lands; a mineral wealth unequalled on either continent; coal of the best on our eastern, western and indeed northern seashores? No, indeed, old Joe Howe was right; we want no Fourth of July celebration; we have a better one on the first of that month; and God, helping us, we will continue to honour it while one Canadian is left alive to do it.—*The Manitobans.*