

and Parliament of Great Britain would interpose to wipe the foul blot from the escutcheon of their Colonial empire? Away then with such pusillanimous and baseless apprehensions that we are about to be whelmed in the vortex of the Confederation!—that if we go into the measure we are destined to be stripped of our rights and to sink rapidly into a state of squalid pauperism. Narrow, indeed, must be the sphere and feeble the powers of his vision, who can descry nothing but shadows, clouds, and darkness resting upon the dynasty of a vice-regal government in British North America, in its language, laws, and literature, constitutional liberty, social order, and Christian faith, reflecting the image, and emulating the honors of its illustrious ancestry.

I will confess to you, so far am I from participating in such desponding views, that, with the very prospect of such a dynasty, the day dawns, and the day-star of a more brilliant career of prosperity than Colonial life on this side of the Atlantic has ever witnessed, arises in my heart. Let these isolated Colonies only marshal themselves in firm phalanx, under the auspices and supreme rule of the British scepter, and that moment a wall of defence is thrown around them more impregnable than that which girds the empire of China,—that moment the problem of the perpetuity of our connection with the monarchy and constitution of England receives its proud and practical solution,—that moment an era of de-