

of every Canadian, Canadian honour ought to be the mark. If it were, and if there were no extraneous tinsel to mislead, a good deal of the money squandered on the chimeras of Imperialism would still be in the pockets of those by whose labour it was earned. ✓

—Interest is added to these matters by the announcement that the Australian Colonies are deliberating on Federation. If they are, and if our Constitution is proposed to them as their model, they had better, instead of being satisfied with the optimist eloquence of Governors-General, send trustworthy commissioners, if possible in a cloak of darkness, to study the results of our experiment on the spot. They will have first to determine clearly what are the objects at which they aim. Internal peace, with freedom of intercourse and external security, which are the ordinary objects of Federation, they already possess as Colonial dependencies united under the supremacy, and defended by the ægis of the Mother Country. If Independence is in view, Federation must go with it; otherwise, the Colonies will become foreign nations to each other; but unless Independence is in view, there is hardly anything to be gained by Federation. Its fruits to Canada, as we have more than once had occasion to point out, have been a duplication of the machinery of Government, with an enormous increase of the expense, the growth of a large debt, and a prodigious development of demagogism and corruption. Against external attack we are not a whit more secure than we were before. Much is said about the beneficent action of the Central Government in annexing the North-West; but we have yet to be convinced that Manitoba, during her early period of colonization, would not have fared as well under an able and honourable governor appointed by the Crown, who would have had nothing to do with land-grabbing, but contented himself with maintaining order, and allowing settlement, railway extension and commerce generally to take their natural course. Not every group of communities is well adapted for the Federal Union, which requires for its happy working a number of States pretty equal among