

magnificent sweep of Western territory, which, had it been opened to us first, might, from its very luxuriancy, have generated among those occupying it, an ignoble life of ease."

Still, the conclusion is, on the whole, irresistible, that public policy and the interests of the whole empire demand, that all those portions of the territory which are adapted for settlement should at once be withdrawn from the power of the Company, the odious existing restrictions on trade abolished, and free colonization allowed to take place therein without let or hindrance. The Red River Settlement would then rapidly develop its resources, augment its population, and become the seat of a new and powerful colony.

With reference to the Company itself, it may be that the time has come when it should be dissolved, and numbered among the things that were,—that it should gracefully imitate the example of the greater and vastly more influential East Indian Company, and yield-up its authority and control. But should it, after due reflection and for sufficient reasons, be otherwise determined, then the license to trade, and the territorial authority of the Company over any portions of the soil but those in actual occupation, should be subjected to the jurisdiction and right of restric-