

finding such a remedy. When the Canadian Parliament declines to give effect to the bargain with British Columbia, and the refusal is acquiesced in by the Dominion Ministry, the mother country cannot even cause the question to be remitted to the constituencies. The jealousy of Imperial interference to which Mr. Mackenzie gives such energetic expression would be aroused, beyond all question, were the Governor-General to be directed by the Colonial Office to dissolve the House of Commons at Ottawa against the advice of his "responsible Ministers." Were even such an expedient—for which there is no recent precedent—possible, it would fail of attaining its object. It is to be feared that the Canadian Conservatives are as little prepared as Mr. Mackenzie's followers to do plain justice to the people of British Columbia, so that a dissolution and a change of Administration would probably effect no more than an alteration in the methods of evasion. Unfortunately, too, the Senate at Ottawa, which is the body directly responsible for the rejection of the "Carnarvon Compromise," consists of members nominated for life, and so long as the majority in this branch of the Legislature remains opposed to the execution of the contract the dead-lock will continue.

It is not, therefore, to the direct compulsion of the Imperial Government that British Columbia can look for the removal of the grievances of which she justly complains, and the text of the address of the Pacific colonists to Lord Dufferin shows that no such illusion is cherished. The address summarizes the controversy with Canada; pointing out that the "many and urgent representations" of British Columbia with respect to "the unfulfilled terms of Confederation, resulting in certain recommendations by the Earl of Carnarvon, which were accepted by the Dominion Government as a solution of the difficulty, and that these recommendations were favorable to the Dominion Government, as they would, if carried out, have relieved it from those conditions of the original terms of Confederation which were considered by the Dominion Government impossible of fulfilment." But the address proceeds, "instead of the Dominion of Canada attempting to fulfil these modified obligations in a *bona fide* manner, she utterly neglected to do so, and in lieu thereof offered a pecuniary compensation to this Province in an ambiguously worded document. This offer was declined by the Provincial Government, and its action was endorsed in the strongest manner by the people." The danger that a sense of wrong originating in this repeated breach of faith may lead to serious political consequences is temperately set forth by the Pacific colonists. It is asserted that "the action of the Dominion Government in ignoring the Carnarvon settlement has produced a widespread feeling of dissatisfaction towards Confederation, which has been intensified by the utterances of prominent public men of the Dominion, who apparently look upon this Province as a source of expense and trouble to the Dominion, and as a Province whose withdrawal would not be regretted." This is perfectly true. Mr. Mackenzie himself has spoken as if the connection with British Columbia were an embarrassing and unprofitable one. Mr. Blake, the present Minister of Justice, has openly declared that if the Pacific Province will not be content with what Canada chooses to give her, she had better go out of the Union; and Sir Alexander Galt, as prominent on the Conservative side as Mr. Blake is among the Liberals, has explicitly endorsed this policy. What wonder if the result has followed which the address