

approval of the Imperial Ministry." This was not very becoming language from a country which was so largely under obligation to ourselves. Mr. Ashworth concluded by quoting the following observations by that pertinent writer, Professor Goldwin Smith:—"We are keeping the colonies in a perpetual state of political infancy, and preventing the gristle of their frames from being matured and hardened into bone. We are making them extravagantly democratic. There is but one way to make Canada impregnable, and that is to fence her round with the majesty of an independent nation" (applause).

Mr. HUGH MASON said that no one in this country wished abruptly to snap the ties which bound Canada and this country together; but, at the same time, he believed that there was a growing feeling in favour of our colonies, and especially Canada, assuming at no distant day the power, dignity, and responsibility of independent nations. If there was any country in the world which ought to do with a low amount of taxation, it was Canada. The International Exhibition showed that Canada possessed the richest mines of undeveloped wealth of almost any country. Both the mother-country and the colony had special grievances. Mr. Galt said they paid the salary of their Governor-General, but they were not allowed to engage or dismiss him; the mother-country, without paying the cost, demanded the patronage. On the other hand, he understood that the salaries of a brace of bishops were saddled upon the mother-country. These were two special grievances. The corn of Canada was admitted into England duty free, but duties were imposed upon our manufactured goods which were almost prohibitory (hear). These were not the kind of relations that ought to exist between a parent and a child. He thought the fear of dismemberment was visionary, for in the case of Ireland the sale of estates had been the greatest blessing to that country. If the honourable gentleman's mission was in the slightest degree to put Canadian hands into the pockets of British taxpayers, he hoped Mr. Galt would leave Manchester at all events with an unmistakeable impression that this was not the time for Canada to ask the Lancashire operatives and millowners for a portion of their taxes. (Mr. Galt—Certainly not.) Canada was like a son who wished to start life where his father stopped. If Canada wanted a perfect system of railroads, she must go through the early stage of road-making which we went through in this country. We ought not to be expected to give any money for Canadian railways. He cordially endorsed the opinion of Mr. Ashworth, and sincerely hoped, for the sake of Canada and England, that the time was not far distant when the former would be an independent nation. In a time of peace it did not matter what Government a coun-