

change from time to time, in the name of an hereditary Sovereign, by a Governor-General who is an accident as far as we are concerned, but who is guided by the advice of Canadian Ministers, amenable to a Canadian parliamentary majority, would be available towards paying the salary and defraying the other expenses of a President, periodically elected amid all the intrigues and rancours, bribery and corruption, incident to party strife. A President elected for a short term cannot well be trusted with the appointment for life of judicial or other officers. Hence the necessity for further and constantly recurring elections of every kind, with all their debasing and demoralizing influences. Hence, also, an imperious necessity for at once proclaiming and acting upon the maxim that 'to the victors belong the spoils' as regulating the tenure of all appointments to civil office under the government. Then farewell to official dignity, purity and integrity. Farewell to a Judiciary and a Civil Service such as are the glory of our lands, Home and Colonial. Nor can a President elected absolute Dictator for a term of years be subject to the control or censure of a legislature. Hence, no more Responsible Ministers bound to explain the measures of Government on the floor of Parliament, and to stand or fall, retain or lose power, according as those measures are or are not acceptable to a majority of the representatives of the people. Instead of them, secretaries appointed and removed at the will and pleasure of the President explaining in written or printed reports and messages as much or as little of their master's policy as he pleases to disclose to a legislature that is powerless to influence, guide or control it, and with respect to whose acts he has a qualified veto and no initiative voice.

If that would be 'independence,' give us rather whatever of 'dependence' may be implied in our being ruled, as our fellow-subjects in the United Kingdom

are ruled, by our beloved Queen, acting on the advice of Privy Councillors acceptable to the majority. The advice of Her Majesty's Canadian Privy Councillors, it is true, is not tendered to Her Majesty in person. Distance forbids. But it is tendered to, and acted upon by, her chosen representative and deputy.

But separation from our Queen, and the loss of that responsible or parliamentary government which is the glory of the British Constitution, substituting for it some weak imitation of the weakest features of its American counterpart, the provision for executive government, though really the great change concealed by, and stealthily advocated under, the above high-sounding title would be accompanied by two consequences. We should no longer be 'dependents' upon the Royal Navy for the defence of our tidal harbours, or of our ships and commerce on the high seas, nor upon British diplomatic or consular agents for the protection of our persons and property when travelling abroad. Having attained to the complete 'independence' we are told we ought to covet, it would, of course, be our high privilege, as well as a matter of indispensable necessity, to build, man, arm, equip, provision and maintain, at whatever cost, a fleet of vessels of war on a scale commensurate with the tonnage of our merchant shipping and the extent and distribution of our foreign commerce. We should also have to maintain an envoy and minister at every seat of government, and a consul at every place where merchants most do congregate, in the civilized world—and perhaps also at some places not by any means civilized. So far as the first of these items of 'dependence' is concerned, our pride could surely be satisfied by our availing ourselves of our power to add ships to the Royal Navy, in proportion to our means, after we shall have got through with, and our finances shall have in some degree recovered from, the great