

that Canada is not yet allowed to make commercial treaties with foreign countries, and that the people have still a right of appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, the Dominion would be practically an independent State. Even the right of Canada to make her own commercial treaties has been distinctly affirmed by a powerful party in the Canadian Parliament. Indeed the history of the Reciprocity Treaty which existed between Canada and the United States until 1866, and of the Washington Treaty of 1872, sufficiently shows the desire of the imperial Government to meet the wishes of the colonies in all matters affecting their commerce; and the time is undoubtedly near at hand when arrangements will be made to place the commercial relations of the Dominion on a far more satisfactory basis than at present. But, of course, any arrangements that are made must keep in view the interests of the imperial connection.

By the written constitution of the Dominion, each province has a Lieutenant-Governor, and a Legislature of either one or two Houses, and an Executive Council. These provincial Legislatures have the right to pass laws with respect to education, local works, and other matters of a municipal or provincial character. Trade and commerce, the raising of a general revenue by taxation, postal affairs, militia and defence, the organisation of the territories, and all matters of a Dominion or national importance, are within the jurisdiction of the central or federal Government, to which are also reserved all powers not expressly given to the provincial Governments. This system, so far, has worked to the common advantage of the Dominion and provinces, and seems well adapted to con-

serve the varied interests of the several members of the confederation. Like the United States, Canada has a Supreme Court to which cases are brought on appeal from the various provincial tribunals, and which is proving itself a valuable auxiliary to the harmonious operation of the Union by its interpretations of the imperial Act of 1867; and there can be no doubt that, in the course of time, the people will fully appreciate the advantage of having an impartial learned body, removed from all sectional influences, ready to decide important issues of constitutional law. The Governor-General is advised by a Privy Council responsible to and dependent on the support of a majority in the House of Commons; and the same wise principle of responsibility to the people through their representatives in Parliament is strictly carried out in all the provinces. The Civil Service is composed of a permanent body of officials, who hold their positions during good behaviour, and can look forward to public support when old age incapacitates them for work. The judiciary is appointed by the Crown, and no one of its members can be removed except on the address of the two Houses of Parliament. These features of the Canadian system of government are in direct opposition to the principles of the American system, and show the essentially British character of Canadian institutions. A permanent Executive, a Ministry directly responsible to Parliament, a non-political body of public servants, and an independent judiciary, are all absolutely necessary to the healthy political development of a country; and Canadians have never been tempted by American influences to swerve from these wise, conservative methods of government. Indeed,