

PREFACE.

THE following article on "The Pariahs of the Empire," refers to a subject of great importance to millions of Englishmen residing in our numerous colonies. It should be remembered that the Dominion of Canada alone has a larger population than Scotland, and that the rapid growth of our Colonial Empire, entitles it to a much larger share of attention than it is at present receiving from our public men.

Though the danger of dismemberment now no longer exists, the issue having been narrowed down to a question as to the unity of the United Kingdom, it is as well to recall the crisis through which the Empire has passed. We therefore append an article on "The Dream of the United Empire Loyalist of 1776," which appeared in the "ST. JAMES' MAGAZINE" in May, 1872, and was subsequently quoted from in the Debate on the Colonies in the House of Commons.

That that article was urgently needed, and that serious danger then existed of a disintegration of the Empire; though now denied by many persons, is best indicated by the following extract from a letter from a very able literary man, addressed to the Editor, dated May 15th, 1872 :—

"The idea of 'THE UNITED EMPIRE REVIEW' is capital, if vigorously worked out."

"I quite go with your friend's bitter, but spirited article. Unfortunately even many influential Conservatives are in favour of cutting the painter, and of letting Canada drift away. When I was conducting the — (a daily paper) I was strongly urged to advocate a voluntary dismemberment of the Empire, and at that time Lord — was one of those who regarded Canada as a dead weight upon Great Britain. Of his Lordship's present views I am not aware, but I do know that a large section of the Commons would not be at all sorry to give up everything but India."

52, ST. JOHN'S SQUARE, CLERKENWELL, E.C.

July 15th, 1874.