

"the Greek, the Roman, the Dutchman, and the Swiss—let them feel that they are to protect their own hearthstones; and, my word for it, the heroic blood which beats in their veins will be true to its characteristics. How often have we heard that our republicans were going to over-run the provinces. They have attempted it once or twice, but have always been beaten out; and I do not hesitate to say that the British-Americans, over whom the old flag flies, are able to defend every inch of their territory, even though her Majesty's troops were withdrawn." True, the times are somewhat changed now, but the population of the colonies is greater, and we count on the assistance of England. Moreover, the United States have now a Poland in their borders, which may be taken into account in the calculation.

Repeatedly, in this pamphlet, does Mr Howe urge the Canadians to cultivate "amicable relations with their neighbors" and the impression is disingenuously conveyed that Canada by this confederation (which he elsewhere represents as tending toward annexation) seeks to assume "an attitude of menace" to the United States.

Canada, who would have to bear the whole brunt of the attack, seek to menace! The thing is absurd. Every cause of quarrel which has yet arisen is on English account--down to this last Fenian raid,—but though damped by House of Commons arithmetic, with the helplessness of England to assist paraded before the world, the Canadas have yet the courage to hope for a successful defence, or at least an honorable resistance. It must be admitted that we have done things we should not have done, in the heat of our disputes. Montrealers have egged a Governor, but the Londoners have stoned a King. Mr. Howe himself in the height of his dispute with Lord Falkland, talked about outraged Nova Scotians 'hiring a negro to horse-whip a Lieut.-Governor through the streets of Halifax;' even that pink of loyalty—Prince Edward Island required a detachment of soldiers to explain the propriety of submitting to the 'outrage and indignity' of paying rent to the English land-owners who had received their lands from the King. We have all sown our wild oats, and if Canada has sown more than

others, remember her special temptations, and as Mr. Howe would have said in old days 'her boundless extent and capabilities.' But while we admit the disgrace of egging a Governor General escorted by dragoons, it is too bad of Mr. Howe to add the crime of insulting his lady to the long catalogue of our sins. Lady Elgin was never affronted in Canada but once;—at Toronto—when Mr. Howe, during a most eloquent speech, carried away with the glorious vision of the union of the colonies, illustrated the fact that their very slight differences would only bind them the closer, by a story, drawn from his inexhaustible budget, which caused her ladyship to withdraw from the gallery.

No one living in Europe can imagine the extent to which party feeling is carried in small communities. The smaller the community if it has a full government staff the higher runs the excitement. P. E. Island, with a total population of 80,000, has the full paraphernalia of government—her Governor, her two Houses, her Ministry, and her ministerial crises. There the battle of religions is fought, the education question, the introduction of the bible into schools. The field is small, but the combatants are lively, and, as must be the case, when members of the same family or traders in the same way of business are contending for the honour of seats at Her Majesty's Council, the disputes are acrimonious to a degree. There is a vigour and heartiness in Colonial abuse to which the well-bred cynical sneering of the "Saturday Review," or the ponderous denunciations of the "Times" are gentle music. Canadians have not had a monopoly of that style of abuse as Mr. Howe very well knows. It is to avoid this that so many of the quieter sort desire a union of the Colonies, that our statesmen may have a wider field for their energies, that the fate of a ministry may not depend on the making a road to a certain village, or the building of a bridge where it is not wanted, to balance the building of another where it is necessary.

The main difficulty of union has always been with the smaller States and the smaller politicians. As for Mr. Howe he is a man of great abilities, and could never be ignored (we have suffered enough already from trying to ignore him), but behind him are the fourth-rate politicians—those who are noisy on the