

during times of excitement; but it is an ominous sign for the unity of a nation when the law is thus openly defied, however stringent may be its provisions. I do not know what opinions Mr. Goldwin Smith entertains with respect to these rebellious expressions and proceedings. He would surely point out that the example of disobedience to authority, and of unconstitutional agitation, has been originated on this side of the Atlantic. How, for the first time in the Parliamentary history of Great Britain, responsible members of the English legislature have come forward to palliate crime because it is political, to participate in a "Plan of Campaign" declared illegal, and to throw in their lot with a league which has been proclaimed as contrary to the law by the executive to whom they have sworn obedience. With conscious pride may the Gladstonian party of Great Britain, as they point to the progress which their principles are making throughout the Empire, echo the lines Voltaire has put into the mouths of the flatterers of Iraz, the mighty satrap of conceit:—

"Ah! combien Monsieur
Doit être content de lui-même."

Unfortunately, it is true that the trouble in Manitoba is only one symptom of this widespread disease of disunion; and, as some prevention against the growth of this malady, the British Government must be prepared generously to continue, and to increase, their support of the route which links together the Canadian territories. This is one of the methods yet open to England, of lessening as far as possible that want of cohesiveness and unity between the provinces of the Dominion, which many, and of their number is Mr. Goldwin Smith, believe will ultimately result in a severance of our ancient and now progressive Colony of Canada from the British Empire, and in its amalgamation with the American Republic.

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