

don is entitled; on such a theory, to a larger representation than all Scotland, and bids fair, in half a century, to be entitled, in a similar way, to as many members as all Ireland. Moreover, a federative league of autonomous colonies could not possibly claim in the Federal body a representation by heads. England will always continue the wealthiest member of the Empire; she is in the van, and must bear the brunt of European collisions, and therefore would continue to possess, of right and of necessity, a largely preponderating influence in the councils of the Federated Empire. Indeed; it is singular that, in commenting upon the plan proposed by Sir Julius Vogel, Lord Blachford overlooked the paragraph in which that objection is met. 'To resume,' said Sir Julius, 'the control or representative power should correspond with the contribution.' And, again, speaking of the dread of swamping the House of Commons with colonial votes, he observed: 'If their fears were to be justified, there would be small hope of federation,' &c. To the ordinary insular prejudices of Englishmen, Lord Blachford superadds a narrowness of view peculiar to the official mind; which is the offspring of tradition and routine. If his Lordship anywhere grows speculative, it is to fancy the seat of Imperial rule transferred to Melbourne or Ottawa, and England reduced to the position of thrall to her own children. If Federation conferred no other benefit upon the Empire, the breadth and keenness of vision it might impart to the British mind at home would be its sufficient justification. In summing up the benefits a closer connection with the Colonies might be expected to bestow, Sir Julius Vogel referred to the vast field which would be opened for the investment of British capital. Becoming better acquainted with their possessions beyond the sea, they would learn more of the ample character of the security they could command and the sterling probity of the colonial character. English money would cease to flow into the bottomless pit of Russian, Turkish, and Egyptian investments, and would at once remunerate the capitalist and aid in building up and consolidating the Empire. So gross is English ignorance about this country's geography, social and commercial status, and financial position, that we habitually suffer vica-

riously for the sins of neighbours over the frontier. No Southern or Western State repudiates its debt without inflicting an injury on Canadian credit; every movement in favour of greenbacks and against the resumption of specie payment excites a reflex influence for harm upon us. Now, when Lord Blachford refers to this branch of the argument, all he can find to say is, that it 'suggests a passing apprehension lest, among other things, of the phrase "confederation" may be begotten the substance "guarantee"' (p. 365). Supposing that were the case, what of it? England has guaranteed two great loans for Canada, for the Intercolonial and Pacific railways—both of which were demanded by the Imperial Government mainly for Imperial purposes—and how much has the mother-country been out of pocket by them? It is this constant spirit of sneering and grudging and grumbling about cost and risk, characteristic of the political school to which Lord Blachford belongs, that is the gravest cause of complaint in the Colonies. Federation, in fact, so far from introducing or necessitating a frequent application for Imperial guarantees, would, in the long run, cause them to be unknown even as matters of history. Why are such Imperial assurances now required and conceded? Simply because of the ignorance which prevails in the United Kingdom, and the fact that the Government is better acquainted with the solid value of the security than the capitalists or brokers are. Guarantees, where, as in the case of the Dominion, they are mere matters of form, are, in fact, a confession of ignorance on the very face of them. They virtually admit that the British creditor knows so little of the credit, the resources, and the *bona fides* of his fellow-subjects within a week's sailing of the United Kingdom, that he is afraid to take a financial leap in the dark without being well assured by Imperial endorsement.

More than that, it is within the bounds of possibility that Federation would not only serve as an instructor of the mother-country in material things, but that she might find something valuable to learn in the educational and municipal institutions of Canada and Australia. The Dominion is, and has long been, a training school for the men, women, and children who flock to it from the United Kingdom; its people