

Dr. Franklin, when assisting in preparing the treaty of peace at Paris, was very desirous that Canada should be given up to the United States. "He said," observed Mr. Sparks "there could be no solid and permanent peace without it; that it would cost the British government more to keep it than it was worth; it would be a source of future difficulties with the United States, and some day or other it must belong to them; and it was for the interest of both parties that it should be ceded in the treaty of peace. Yet he did not think it proper to urge such a cession as a necessary condition of peace, especially since Congress had forborne to instruct the Commissioners on this subject, and since there was no claim on France by the treaty of alliance to sustain such a demand, as the pledge in that treaty was only to insure the Independence of the old thirteen Colonies, and Canada was not one of them." Mr. Oswald, one of the British Commissioners, "in his conversations with Dr. Franklin, gave it as his opinion that Canada should be given up to the United States, and said that when he mentioned it to the ministers, though they spoke cautiously they did not express themselves as decidedly opposed to the measure. It was not pressed, however, by the American Commissioners, and it would not seem to have been much dwelt upon in the subsequent progress of the negotiation."

Two attempts have been made to wrest Canada from the British government by force of arms: both have failed. Yet the adoption of Canada into our family of confederated states is now a more probable event than it was at the most prosperous period of either of our wars with Great Britain. The people of that Province have long been watching with interest the progress of the United States, and, finding no sufficient explanation in climate, soil and productions for the great difference between that progress and their own, they have been led to regard the different forms of government as the main cause. The mission of the schoolmaster has been doing its work.

The English government must soon begin to perceive, as the people have already done, that Canada costs them more than it is worth, and that in the event of its independence they would still have the Canadians for their customers, and to a much larger extent than at present.

To the people of the United States, Canada would be welcome now as in 1776. Practically the Union is no larger to-day than during the revolution, such changes have been made in the facilities of travel and communication from one extreme to the other. The news of the surrender of Charleston (S. C.) was a month in reaching Philadelphia by express. In less time we now hear from California. With our beautiful system of the division of power between the general and the state governments, it would be