

to the Crown, and it led them, as we have seen, to disunion, to exile, to sacrifices, to humiliation. The watchword of the United Empire Loyalists of the future must be "Reunion of the Empire," and "Loyalty to the Race."

Such, then, is the answer which the history of a century of British diplomacy gives to the question, Are we called upon "for the encouragement of trade," to atone for British wrongs by the sacrifice of Colonial rights? If we must submit to such a demand, let us at least take good care that the ratification of the Treaty is to be the last of a century of sacrifices, and that it must be an acquittance and discharge for ever, a pledge that we have earned at last our commercial emancipation.

Most sincerely it is to be hoped that the Treaty will be ratified, not because it is just, or what we had a right to expect, or because British diplomatists are entitled to any favours at our hands, but because it affords us an opportunity of closing a century of discord and disunion, by "burying the hatchet," and by making a friendly concession to a kindred people, who, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, are not only our nearest, but also our only neighbours. Descendants of the Old Colonists of 1766, who, wiser in their generation than the United Empire Loyalists, refused to be sacrificed "for the encouragement of trade," they are now a great nation.

Nature, which has, by ties of blood, united us to our kinsmen who are near us, and to a mighty Empire that is afar off, has divided us from the latter by an obstacle which nothing but the omnipotence of Parliament can remove. We need a statute to abolish the Atlantic Ocean, with its long and costly voyages, and its heavy taxes on trade for freight, commissions, &c. The impropriety of such an obstacle is so apparent, that our commercial policy refuses to recognize its existence. It is, however, difficult to ignore the fact that *dissociabile æquor* divides us from the Old World; and that as markets are generally profitable in proportion to their proximity, nature itself has made our brothers across the line nearer and more desirable customers than the mother country across the sea. Heavy