

They are at times very susceptible to declamatory appeals, not always founded on grounds of sense or justice. If it were possible to believe that intelligence and reason could be ever finally lost in a storm of passion, it would be unfortunate for Canada, and we might well despair of her future. The true interest of French Canada lies, not in keeping aloof from, but in identifying itself with, all other nationalities, for the security and peace of the whole country, irrespective of provincial boundaries or race considerations. The success of confederation up to the present has been based on this spirit of Canadian unity, and it would be an unfortunate day for the Dominion should the declamatory appeals which are made from time to time prevail so as to excite a religious or racial conflict. Happily in all national crises, so far, the common sense and patriotism of the people have won the day. So it will be in the case of the present agitation on the Quebec Jesuits' Act, which is entirely a constitutional question that must be decided by legal and constitutional methods.

The inquiry now naturally suggests itself, what will be the outcome of this material and political development; what is the destiny in store for a country showing so much energy and enterprise in all the pursuits of industry, and such admirable capacity for self-government. This question is occupying much attention, in consequence of the efforts that are now being made to stimulate an interest in the grand idea of Imperial Federation, and of the discussion that has grown up in the United States on the subject of annexation. Of one thing we may be quite certain, that the people of the Dominion are resolved on working out their own future apart from the United States, and on building up a new nationality to the north of the Republic. Canadians for the last twenty years have taught themselves to be independent, not only in a political but in a commercial sense, whenever practicable, of their powerful neighbours. Their efforts have been directed as far as possible to new avenues of trade, and to the building up of a large system of manufactures, and to the cultivation in every way open to them of a spirit of self-reliance. Canadians are quite ready to meet their neighbours in a spirit of compromise and fair dealing, whenever it is a question of Fisheries and commercial relations. It is needless to say that the people of Canada generally have not been a little irritated by the hostile attitude assumed towards them by certain politicians in and out of Congress since the repeal of the Washington Treaty. The unwillingness of these politicians to agree to any fair commercial arrangement between the United States and the Dominion, on the basis of a recipro-

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