

cheapest, will be the best antidote to protective heresies, the most fortunate circumstance for British trade. Happily, the severe views of one school of financial reformers and economic enthusiasts about the policy of emigration are being gradually discredited by the mere force of circumstances.

Another very marked result of confederation has been to develop the loyalty of the Canadians into a much more general, practical, and genuine feeling. While no British soldier occupies the citadel of Quebec, or the garrisons of St. John, or Kingston, or Toronto, there is a Canadian militia which can be enrolled up to the number of 700,000 fighting men, which is animated by the military spirit, and inspired by a loyalty as deep and true as that of any Imperial soldier. Harsh and ungenerous as were the terms by which this policy was carried out under Lord Granville, and accompanied by words as unkind and inpolitic as the acts, we may perhaps be grateful that it has led to consequences no more disastrous than the development of an independent military power colleague with Great Britain to the north of the great Republic. As for maritime ascendancy, Canada will be able to put upon the ocean as fine and as numerous a body of fighting sailors as the Republic itself. But we may safely regard war with the United States as a bogey invented to frighten British politicians. The Canadians therefore at this moment are not exactly in the position which it was said they once occupied, of mere foster-children hanging upon the breasts of their mother country; but they are men capable of maintaining their own position and of asserting their own rights, and it would be well for both the Government and people of Great Britain to recognize that fact. In this situation their loyalty to the Empire is all the more trustworthy as it is the more remarkable and magnanimous. I think I may safely say that there is growing up an opinion in Canada in favour of permanent union with the British Empire on very equitable terms. I could, were there time, allude to the remarkable utterances of Mr. Blake, one of the most distinguished of Canadian statesmen, who has distinctly and deliberately