

her own hemisphere, and wedding her to the other, is not possible. It is a desperate attempt to make nature bend to the dictates of political prejudice. The political part of Sir Alexander's mission will be jealously watched by those who prize Canadian self-government, and it is satisfactory to see that Mr. Blake is on the alert. Our relations with the Government of the Mother Country are defined by the British North America Act, and, in case of necessity, the Governor-General is the constitutional medium of communication. What then are the matters in which the Canadian Privy Council requires the "support" of the British Cabinet, and finds it necessary to receive that support, not openly, but with cabinet secrecy, through a quasi-Minister domiciled in London? They ought to be, at least, intelligibly described.

—Once more, in a very positive form, if not from a very authoritative source, comes the announcement of a projected scheme of Imperial Confederation. It would be like Lord Beaconsfield to float that magnificent speculation before he retired. Let the scheme be considered by all means. That this great country can for ever remain in the present limbo between dependency and nationality, nobody ventures to assert. Everybody—Sir Francis Hincks and Sir Julius Vogel, as well as the rest,—avows or betrays his conviction that we shall some day have to choose between Imperial Confederation, Nationality, and Continental Union: as to Annexation, in the ignominious sense of the term, there will be danger of it only if Canada is brought on her knees by the consequences of reckless expenditure. The most extreme quietist pleads only for an indefinite delay, and for blindness to the future, which would be very well if, in the meantime, no Pacific Railway were being built, and no false direction were being given to our political character and institutions. The policy hitherto pursued has pointed in its whole course towards self-government, of which the consummation is nationality. Yet it is natural