

ult. For it appears that, Home Rule and threatened civil war notwithstanding, this question is still to the front. The Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom have been discussing it. The Birmingham Chamber, not content to let it rest, has apparently moved the adoption of its own resolution by the representatives of trade and commerce from all parts of the United Kingdom. Inasmuch as the Canadian offer stands alone, and has so far received no support from our sister colonies, he would be a sanguine man who should expect the resolution to be carried by such a body as the Association of Chambers of Commerce. It was rejected, but not until "after considerable discussion," and apparently not until a second resolution of a similar nature had been moved by the Middleborough Chamber, was the discussion brought to an end. Unfortunately, experience

proves that we cannot be sure of what has taken place until the arrival of English papers. But of this we may be convinced, that the cable report does not err in the direction of too great friendliness to the cause of British unity.

The friends of Imperial Reciprocity in Canada may be well assured of ultimate victory for the noble cause they have espoused. There are formidable difficulties to be overcome, difficulties hard of solution. But they will be fused and moulded by the earnestness of purpose born of a union of the sentiment and the self-interest of a patriotic and practical people. The great tide of public opinion in Britain and in Greater Britain is flowing ever deeper and stronger in the desired direction. Obstacles in its course will from time to time alter the direction of a portion of the current. But let no man mistake the little eddy for the main stream.

