

cessful operation of the former in the United States. They find there a captivating illustration in the existence of the most powerful and prosperous nation on earth,—a nation whose prospects of future greatness overshadow those of all the other leading nations put together. Canadians feel that they have lost enormously in the matter of immigration, the application of the necessary volume of capital to the development of their great resources, and an extensive beneficial trade with their American cousins and neighbors. And this is mainly owing to the miserable artificial line of separation maintained by a small, noisy, political class, principally for party effect and the gratification of traditional prejudice.

The indifference of the Queen's ministers in regard to changes in colonial opinion was shown by the conferring of knighthood upon Sir A. T. Galt, some years ago, though he had previously informed them that he advocated Canadian independence. The ultra loyalists, political aspirants to imperial favor, and new-fledged knights, who form the nucleus of a petty official aristocracy, were bewildered and shocked beyond description at the behavior of the Gladstone-Bright ministry on this occasion. In the opinion of those sticklers for permanent British connection, it was to the last degree unwise to waste such honors upon an Independent, an "Annexationist in disguise," while true, blue-blooded loyalists played their little fussy parts unnoticed by her most gracious Majesty. But yet, spite of the Independence contamination, both Canadian parties, Liberals and Conservatives, have gladly coquetted with Sir A. T. Galt, employing him and catering for his support, the latter party having given him his present appointment of Canadian High Commissioner at the Court of St. James. Late dispatches from England state that this gentleman has again changed his opinions. He now advocates Imperial Federation, which some of his Ottawa masters do not well like, it is believed.

Returning to the main point, the explanation of the preference of so large a body of the Canadian people for annexation is to be found in the settled conviction that it would at once greatly increase the trade of the Dominion, and, in a short time, its general prosperity. Then there is the Independence party to be noticed, comprising not a few of the most intelligent men in both party camps, perhaps more in the Liberal. The Conservatives strive to damage the Liberal cause by calling its