

- " Yes, we are one ; the glorious days of yore,
 " When dear Old England earned her storied name,
 " Are thine, as well as ours, for evermore ;
 " And thou hast rights in Milton, ev'n as we ;
 " Thou too canst claim—' Sweet Shakspeare's wood notes wild,'—
 " And chiefest, brother, we are both made free,
 " Of one religion, pure and undefiled."

The other event was the debate upon the proposed confederation of all the provinces, with a constitution resembling, as nearly as possible, that of the United States. It was proposed to petition Parliament for an Act forming one general government in America. But thinking that by it the power of the colonists was too fully demonstrated, and the control of the Crown rendered too feeble, the British Cabinet rejected the plan. "The maturing and adopting of this important scheme in North America were reserved for her separate and independent authority at a later period. Repeated renewals of their military conventions accustomed men's minds to the idea of centralization ; and when the final struggle with the parent country commenced, the machinery to be made use of for combination was so familiar to the provincials, that they had but to follow the example of their forefathers."

Hitherto one common object, the expulsion of the French from the New World, had served to unite the mother country and the colonies. After a war which lasted nine years, this object was attained ; and on February 10th 1763, a Treaty of Peace was signed at Paris, by which the whole of Canada, Nova Scotia, (including New Brunswick) Cape Breton, and all the Islands in the Gulf and River Saint Lawrence, were ceded to England.

The glorious termination of this arduous struggle was hailed at the time as an auspicious event, which would consolidate forever the union of the two countries. But the war had been an expensive one, and the national debt greatly increased by it. To lighten this debt therefore, it was determined to tax America, and compel her for the future to defray the expenses of her own government, which had hitherto been provided for by England. The Molasses or Sugar Act was accordingly