

government, than any other secular thing whatsoever, to cement British and Canadian interests in a bond of indissoluble union. It would likewise make us entirely independent of our neighbours in the States; for our carrying lines, in the event of a war, besides securing a ready conveyance to the interior of our West Indian and other produce; whereas at present the large sum (for a colony) of 750,000*l.* goes annually from Canada to the States, for the purchase of the very commodities which our own colonies ought to supply. I am well aware that some amazingly far-sighted statesmen in our own beloved country are fond of maintaining that our "tight little island" could continue to hold her present unparalleled supremacy of position amongst the nations if shorn of her colonies; and such persons would therefore be better pleased than not were they to become so many independent states to-morrow. In fact, it is well known that Mr. Joseph Hume and others of his school were open advocates of the rebellion in Canada. Yet, however such "penny wise and pound foolish" people may dream that ships and commerce would remain to Great Britain when colonies had departed, I happen to know that our shrewd long-headed neighbours in the States are of a very different opinion. I saw it expressly admitted, and indeed asserted, not long ago, in an American paper, that *the possession*