

railway are achievements of which an older community might be justifiably proud. Canada now stands eighth among the nations of the world in the mileage of her railways and her telephones, while she holds the fourth place in respect of her registered tonnage. It is pleasant to learn that despite the McKinley tariff there has been a great increase in Canadian exports within the last two years, because attention has been turned to England, which has proved a better customer—an infinitely better customer, Mr. Foster says—than the United States. It would seem, therefore, that even without the preferential arrangements which the colonists desire, remunerative trade with this country is possible, and we must hope that it will be greatly extended as the years go on. It is certain that the McKinley tariff has failed in one of its objects, if it has not, as the Democratic triumph in the United States appears to indicate, failed in all. It has not brought Canada to her knees. On the contrary, reciprocity is less in favour than ever, as the Canadians are coming to discover that they are not so dependent on their immediate neighbours as they had been taught to think. At the same time, as they acquired a national consciousness of their greatness, both territorially and in the resources they possess, they will repudiate yet more energetically than in the past the suggestion that they should merge themselves in the American Republic. Canadian independence is conceivable, annexation is now but a dream, and Mr. Goldwin Smith will apparently soon be left to dream the dream by himself.

*EXTRACT FROM THE "MORNING LEADER" OF
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The consolidation of the Empire is the meeting-ground for the upholders of opinions widely different and at times actively antagonistic, and yesterday afternoon the meeting held by the City of London Branch of the Imperial Federation League to hear an address from the Hon. George E. Foster, the Finance Minister of Canada, comprised people of all shades of thought. Mr. A. G. H. Gibbs, M.P., occupied the chair, Lord Brassey, Sir F. Young, Sir C. Mills (Cape of Good Hope), Mr. C. Freeman Murray, and Mr. Arnold Forster, M.P., were amongst the many who crowded the large room of the London Chamber of Commerce in Eastcheap. Mr. Foster, a slight spectacled man with a rapid delivery, commenced his address by saying it would be severely practical, and so it was. It bristled with figures rather suggestive of a sum in proportion. Mr. Foster said they had room in Canada for all the unemployed in London and elsewhere. It is true that there is still much unoccupied territory in Canada, but before putting more people on the land the Dominion should modify her fiscal laws. Progress must, as it is, be slow when everything which the farmers want to buy is taxed for tariff purposes up to the high-water mark, while nothing that they sell can possibly benefit from Protection. This is a suicidal policy. It is bad enough in the United States—whose people have just revolted against the system—but is ten times worse in Canada, which is not a self-contained country.