

more and more *towards* British and more and more *from* Yankee civilization. If we were to make part of an Imperial Federation and had representatives in London, or if we were independent, our expenses would be vastly increased. Are our people prepared for this? Are they full of longing to have their fingers in warlike pies?

If we go on as now, faithful to the present and the future, the time may come when a British Bund for international purposes will be possible. The writer was much struck with the following idea thrown out by Sir John Macdonald on an occasion when he had the honour of a lengthened conversation with the veteran statesman. Sir John said while his eyes flashed and the nervous frame seemed to thrill with the prospect: "Twenty years hence is the time I should like to come up,—then the Australias will be a great naval power; so will Canada—we shall then be probably ten millions, and the three powers combined in a great Pacific policy, could rule the world."

But public opinion is king. If public opinion were to-morrow in favour of independence, independence we should have. It is however, notoriously the other way, and the best thing that can be done therefore at present is to go on as we are, leaving the future in the hands of Providence. This is what called by some persons, drifting. But the future is an unknown sea, and in an unknown sea you cannot do better than fit yourselves for what new circumstances may arise, and not try and anticipate what those circumstances shall be. We hear constantly "we must prepare for this and that." If we only take care to be honest and straightforward and instructed we shall be amply prepared. Lying, plundering the public purse, sneering at public spirit, earning one's bread by dirty transactions and political pandering, want of courage and want of candour,—these are bad preparations for anything requiring manliness and statesmanship.

So far as Canadians are concerned, an answer has been given by anticipation to the argument of "The Great Game," which to the extent that it has any bearing on this country, is now set forth.