

not only without fighting, but without being prepared to fight for them. All of us, we imagine, have at times known this feeling. Certainly, as a nation, the English detest militarism, and though they understand clearly enough that war is the natural order of the material world, they have probably more forbearance and kindness in proportion to their courage than any race now existing. They would live and let live as willingly as most men. But dwelling among beasts of prey, they see good reasons for not playing the rabbit.

The French-Canadian then desires what, as an inhabitant of the modern world, it appears that he cannot have. "Independence is, to his mind, the most natural outcome of the ultimate destinies of Canada." But since an independence which you cannot defend successfully, and for which you do not wish to fight at all, is not a very satisfactory state, he admits that the later Canada "starts on her own course, the safer the journey." The word "safer" is merely a word of optimism; such a journey, conducted on such methods, could only end, as the present situation can only end, in one of the three ways indicated by Mr. Bourassa himself.

Annexation to the United States, British Imperialism, Annexation to France—this is the choice; and we are told that the two last are undoubtedly those which the French-Canadian would oppose most strenuously. We accept the fact, but the reasons given seem to be inadequate and self-contradictory. Annexation to France is of course not to be seriously considered; setting England aside, the United States would never permit it. We are glad, however, that Mr. Bourassa has thought it worth while to touch upon the question of the relation of the French-Canadian to modern France, for he has incidentally supplied some strong reasons against believing in the possibility of annexation to the United States.

The French-Canadian, it appears, is but distantly related to his European cousin: French immigration into America stopped forty years before the Revolution; the French-Canadian nationality was severed from the motherland half a