

How all these conflicting difficulties will be arranged, and a compromise speedily arrived at, it seems difficult to say. Since negotiations are pending, if a certain amount of money be all that is requisite to settle the matter, it seems fair that the Canadian Government, who would be most benefited by the cession, and who could dispose advantageously of the lands made over to it, should also find the means; especially if England agreed to contribute anything towards an Overland railroad. But one thing is certain, namely, that the Government must show a determination to remove this *real difficulty*, so that the question may be settled as speedily as possible, before a road of any kind can be opened across the Continent.

POSSIBILITY OF DIFFICULTIES WITH THE UNITED STATES.

This in plain English means, that supposing a railroad to be built. Canada is so much at the mercy of the chapter of accidents, that England might not even retain the use of it. And here we enter on a different phase of the question, and rather a delicate one; for without wishing to attribute to the American people any positive feeling of enmity towards this country, which certainly does not exist among the more educated classes, or in the rural districts, it is impossible to deny that in the larger towns, where the poorer and labouring classes are for the most part of recent foreign origin, and where the Irish element more especially abounds, the feeling against England is strong. The latter hate us cordially, as we all know, and as they are the greatest political intriguers in the country, their opinions are listened to and often made use of by those who do not entertain them. Add to this, that the Americans themselves are becoming more and more ambitious as their power increases, until many of them have come to believe that the whole American continent, from the North Pole to the Isthmus of Panama, ought of right to belong to them; and we shall be able to account for the aggressive tone which often displays itself in the public prints, but which is certainly much more exaggerated than real.

That Canada presents a long line of defenceless frontier may be true, but the invasion of a country is one thing, and its conquest another; and as long as the Canadians remain as loyal to England as they now are, and are likely to be, and have been for a century, there is little danger of any such event. The Americans have attempted once or twice to overrun the provinces, but they have always been beaten, and the struggles of 1812, 1813, and 1814, prove that the Canadians can defend every inch of their territory, and drive back their enemies when attacked in their homes. Besides, as regards the line of frontier, there are certain vital points in Canada, of which an enemy must acquire possession before he could obtain any decided footing. These are few in number, and if the arrangements now under consideration are carried out for their defence, and the inter-colonial