

of honour and justice to seek to deprive us of our evident rights ; it has too much prudence, by an act of manifest injustice, to do ought to alienate the affections of a loyal and spirited people.

But our opponents seek to place the question on other grounds, and to found it on policy and expediency. Our claims rest on national faith ; on solemn treaties ; on the fitness of our religion, to lead its followers in that path, which the revealed will of the Deity has marked out as the road to eternal happiness ; and doubtful indeed, must any policy be, which would run counter to these firm principles. But, I assert, and I am prepared clearly to prove, that did our claims rest on no other basis than that of simple policy and expediency, every enlightened principle of both would give us a decided advantage over those who oppose us.

Let me then, Sir, solicit your attention to this view of the subject, and let us consider what are the relations of Great Britain and Canada, which, constituting the bond of their political union and government, must therefore regulate the principles on which that government is conducted, and determine the expediency of whatever measure it may be called on to adopt.

A community of interests is the firmest basis of union among Governments, "*idem velle, et idem nolle, cademum firma amicitia est*," is a maxim as true, in regard to states, as parties. It is happily on these grounds that the connection of Great Britain and Canada rests.

Britain, a great manufacturing and commercial nation, abounding in capital, redundant with population, finds her own welfare connected with that of a people, who take from her the products of her manufacturing industry, who offer an asylum to her superfluous population, and who supply her with the raw materials, which she cannot so easily raise within her immediate territories.—We, again, may esteem the prosperity of the mother country our own, while that prosperity sends us the finished productions of human labour far more cheaply than we could manufacture them—while it gives us in return, a market for the produce of our fields and forests, and while it sends capital to the country to enable us to call forth its abundant resources. While these circumstances in the relations of the two countries continue, and it is impossible for us to assign a time, when they shall cease, so long will it be for the benefit of both to remain under a common government. Capital will then flow more plentifully from the one country to the other, because it will flow far more securely ; the commercial relations of the two countries will run no risk of being interrupted, and thence destroyed ; and, above all, that lamentable but unavoidable jealousy of separate states, which leads to mutual seclusion and privation, because one will not embrace a good, lest it should prove a greater benefit to its rival, can have no place while we form a common people.

To these ties which connect Canada thus intimately with Great Britain, there is added yet this other, that great part of the popula-