nconsistently, " the Reciprocity Treaty." It is not necessary here to give the history of that treaty, or to describe its operation in detail. It has largely increased the activity of trade in the Colonies, and has doubtless been productive of benefit to them ; but, in many sections of the Colonies, the opinion prevails that this advantage has still been dearly purchased, whilst the mode in which the treaty was effected is considered objectionable. Since it has been in operation, the principles embodied in it have been more thoroughly and widely canvassed than they ever were before. The treaty itself expires in 1866, when, no doubt, an effort will be made to renew it. If it is renewed, in any form, without the consent of the different Provinces, great discontent will ensue. If sought to be renewed with their consent, they remaining separate as at present, the question will be beset with difficulties. Nearly every Province, and some sections of Provinces, will desire important modifications of the existing treaty in its favor, and each will naturally look *solely* to its own sectional interests. This being the case, and the contracting parties being far removed from, and, in a measure, independent of each other, it is to be feared that much difficulty, delay, and perhaps total failure in settling the matter satisfactorily, will be the result. Did the ratification of the treaty, however, depend upon the action of a single parliament—that of the *United* Provinces—although sectional interests might clash, the whole body would yet feel *then* that they had interests in common superior to those of a local character ; and the representatives of conflicting claims, being brought face to face, a spirit of mutual accommodation would be evolved which would, in all probability, lead to an early and generally satisfactory settlement. The same rules which would apply in this case, would apply in any other where the now unconnected Colonies were called upon to settle any question where several, or all, of them were interested.

If we regard this question only as one in which the inter-