

IMPERIAL FEDERATION

This is another project of the Tories aimed at destroying the self-government of the Provinces and to force us in a disguised form into Legislative Union.

I need not tell you that in Canada, it is Sir John A. Macdonald who is the soul and inspirator of this anti-provincial movement. Seeing the Provinces organizing themselves to resist the encroachments of the Federal authorities, he wish to thwart their efforts by shifting the question to another ground. Thoroughly convinced that popular sentiment here is opposed to him, he would destroy that sentiment by associating with himself in his projects the most influential public men of England. For, mark my words, it is in England that we must seek the centre of action where are prepared the plans which are destined to rob us of the institutions which we so justly cherish.

The partisans of Imperial Federation are becoming bolder every day. They have just proclaimed their sentiments in a striking manner and they have succeeded in making of their dream a question of actual politics, through the nomination of the new Governor-General, who is an avowed advocate of Imperial Federation. In fact, Lord Stanley has given it to be understood that he comes to Canada with the fixed intention and the firm determination to secure the triumph of that cause. That is to say, that he is coming here like Lord Durham in 1839, to complete the work of national destruction begun by the author of the famous report, which is so well known to all. And, *La Minerve*, the French organ of the Tories, compleasantly reproduces the utterances of Lord Stanley in favor of Imperial Federation and seems to welcome him, especially because of the opinions expressed by him on that subject. The fiat has thus gone forth, and all the French and English Tories must be in favor Imperial Federation.

The situation is serious; we are confronted with the greatest danger to which our political organization has ever yet been exposed; we are to have a regime forced upon us, of which the consequences for us cannot be other than most disastrous. Down to the present, we have drawn our life from the colonial system; now, we are to be compelled to assume, against our will, the responsibilities and perils of a sovereign State, which will not be our own—to