

mercial depression, have begun to work. The fact has dawned upon the minds of those who toil with scanty returns, and who see a vast burden of debt being gradually heaped upon them, that titles, smiles, vice-regal entertainments, the favour of London drawing-rooms, the social heaven of colonists, lavished upon the few, do not provide bread for the many. They demand that a policy shall be adopted which will give them the fruits of their labour, no matter with what sentiment it may interfere. Their hearts tell them plainly enough that no policy which promotes their material welfare can really break the natural bond of affection between them and their mother country, let knighthood and Professor Fanning fare as they may. It is nearer the truth to say this than to say that there is an increase of adherence to any definite theory of political relations, though the *Globe* has now to confess with anguish, in the face of its recent denials, that "the Separationist movement has more adherents than in 1878, more by far than in 1877 or 1876." Canada, by the lapse of generations, is passing from immigrant into native hands, and the love of country awakened in the breast of the native Canadian by Confederation, which has smouldered on in spite of the most desperate efforts to quench it, has helped to set thought free on the subject of commercial relations. But the movement in its essential character is economical, and being economical it is strong. It will show itself now at one point, now at another, with an intensity varying according to the economical conditions. To-day it is brought to a head by financial embarrassment and commercial misgiving at Quebec. To-morrow Nova Scotia may be its scene. There, the shipbuilders are reported to have been dwelling on the increased cost of shipbuilding under the new tariff, while the poor universally complain of the increased price of food and clothing. The prevalence of this pressure over sentiment is a question of time, however strong among the upper and official classes the sentiment may be. Of New Brunswick much the same thing may be said; and in Ontario itself a change would soon be produced by a bad harvest and a diminished demand for