

kins, and A. O. Howland—who, we see, has just been elected a member of the Ontario legislature for Toronto,—will have given some idea of the variety and perplexity of sentiment prevailing among our northern neighbors in regard to their political destiny, as well as evidence of their growing dissatisfaction with their actual position. To those volumes is now to be added a book of less size and pretension, but not less deserving of respect for ability and fairness. Mr. Douglas has the advantage of writing from a special standpoint—that of ‘a Canadian long resident in the United States,’ and therefore qualified by experience for dealing with both sides of the annexation question. There are, fortunately for the country, multitudes of such desirable residents, quite enough, indeed, if they could be brought together, to make by themselves a populous and certainly also a prosperous State. They belong to two widely different classes, or rather, categories. The one and far the largest division comprises mainly those who crossed the boundary southward in comparatively early life, intending to cast their lot permanently in their new abode. These, while retaining their natural affection for their birthplace, fix their hopes on the future of their adopted country. The smaller, but personally not less worthy and valuable class comprehends those who, from longer home associations, cannot sever in mind the ties which attach them to their native land, of which they still regard themselves as citizens. This class, and the many English-born residents of the United States holding like sentiments, have in our author a highly estimable representative. No person, indeed, of whatever country he may be, can read his book without imbibing respect for the candor and ability displayed in its pages. Its well-ordered array of facts and figures, combined with strong argumentative deductions, make it a creditable contribution to the publishers’ excellent Questions of the Day series, and one well worthy of the attention of public men on both sides of our northern boundary.

“The author’s clear judgment is especially shown in the promptness with which he narrows down the questions of Canada’s future to two. It must, in his opinion, be either independence or annexation. ‘Imperial Federation’ he regards as a pleasing dream, and at all events as impossible unless preceded by independence as a necessary preliminary. His arguments on the latter point will be felt by every reader to be conclusive. And when the colonies are thus independent, he can see no way to any union between them and the mother country, except one of sentiment, which he thinks will always exist and be highly advantageous to all of them. As regards annexation, he is of opinion that the disadvantages both to Canada and to the United States would be far greater than any benefits that would be likely to result. Close commercial connection, with as much freedom of trade as possible, seems to him highly desirable; but political union would be fraught with injury to both countries. His arguments, which are based on many facts and statistics, are well deserving of consideration, and must certainly moderate any desire for early political union which may be felt on either side.

“Yet it must be said that if the independence which the author considers inevitable shall actually come, the political union which he deprecates will also, if history is to be our guide, be equally sure to follow. The influence of a common language in drawing independent and closely adjoining communities together under one government has been hitherto found irresistible. It is to this influence that the kingdoms of Great Britain, France, and Spain in former days, and the German Empire and Italian Kingdom in our own day, have owed their existence. As to

the manner in which this union is likely to be brought about, the teachings of history, especially in the cases just referred to, afford ample indication. In the state of feeling now existing, and any that is likely to exist, between the mother country and Canada, it is safe to predict that the independence of the latter will not result from any voluntary act on either side. It can only come from such a European convulsion as may make it impossible for the mother country to defend and consequently to hold her distant dependencies. Canada, thus left helplessly exposed to the attacks of any foreign power possessing a preponderant naval and military force, would find a fraternal union with her nearest neighbor, ensuring her ‘peace with honor,’ a result as desirable as a similar refuge has lately been found by the people of Bavaria and the Roman States. In such a case Mr. Douglas would certainly admit that the balance of advantages in favor of annexation would be overwhelming.”

But we beg to differ from the *Critic’s* reviewer. We do not think that Mr. Douglas would admit anything of the kind. Canadians would not have annexation under any conditions or for any reasons. The objections to it will always be greater to it than the arguments in favour of it.

NOTES.

WE have received from Mr. Fred Rogers, D.C.L., of Sault Ste Marie, a copy of the now well-known hand book of Algoma, which he has compiled with great discrimination and ability. Algoma is only beginning to be known. It has been somewhat neglected by the outside world greatly to the loss of the Dominion at large. A study of this valuable hand book will show what a splendid heritage is here for Canadians.

TRINITY UNIVERSITY will receive some promising young athletes next year from the ranks of the matriculants, who will enter the University for the first time in October next. Several of the matriculants distinguished themselves on the old fields of Port Hope and Upper Canada College. Messrs. A. A. Macdonald, John L. Todd, R. H. M. Temple and others come from Upper Canada College. The latter won first place in the steeplechase at the U.C.C. this year and may prove an acquisition to the hockey team. The former is also a good hockeyist. Several cricket and football men come to Trinity from U.C.C. this year, and will add strength to the College this fall. A strong delegation is also coming to the College from Port Hope. This school has been the nucleus from which the most famous of Trinity’s athletes have come. Several of Port Hope’s best football and cricket players of 1893 and 1894 will don the Trinity uniform this fall. The outlook is exceedingly good, the majority of last year’s Trinity sporting men are left in College yet, and the new blood will strengthen the various college sporting organizations. The gymnasium will also be ready for use in October, and will give an untold stimulus to sports at Trinity.—*Saturday Night*.

MR. BERESFORD-HOPE has sold *The Saturday Review* which has been almost forty years in the Hope family. Walter Pollock retires from the editorship. The purchaser of *The Saturday Review* is Mr. L. H. Edmunds, a barrister, who will edit it himself and who will not change its policy. *The Saturday Review* was founded in November, 1855, and has always maintained a leading position for its fearless criticisms on all political, literary and social topics. Among its contributors in days gone by have been Lord