

tion of Canada was greater than the British population, and one of the difficulties of any federation of the provinces was in adjusting the conditions of such federations to the political aspirations of the French-Canadians. Early in the negotiations, however, it was found that the French-Canadians were quite prepared for the proposed federation, and at a conference between the delegates from the provinces it was agreed upon. The motives for this union were very clear.

(1) A feeling of insecurity pervaded Canada at the close of the American War. The army engaged in the Civil War was about to be disbanded. Already several raiding bodies of a somewhat disreputable composition had crossed the borders with hostile intent, at different points, and although it was well known that they had done so without the sanction of the American Government, there was some fear as to the extent and power of the organization they represented. To be in a position to repel such incursions, should they be continued, was most desirable. A union of the provinces would strengthen us for this purpose.

(2) As we were shut out from the United States very largely by the repeal of the treaty of 1854, it was felt that we could at least partially make up for that loss by improved transportation facilities between the provinces and the abolition of all tariff restraints upon interprovincial commerce.

(3) Attachment to British institutions, with all that is implied in love for the homes and graves of their fathers, powerfully influenced Canadians in favor of a larger basis for the development of British sentiment.

(4) Intermingled with the motives already stated, was also the self-reliance peculiar to the Anglo-Saxon race, which was prepared to repel any invasion, either open or veiled, upon their political integrity. Rightly or wrongly the impression prevailed in Canada that the Monroe doctrine, as understood in the United States, meant the Americanization of our half of the North American Continent. The union of the provinces was one form of expressing our doubts on this contentious question.

(5) The two political parties of Canada were so nearly balanced numerically that neither could secure a safe working majority in the Legislature, and rather than continue this unsatisfactory condition of affairs both parties were prepared to seek relief in the larger field of state-manship which a federation of the provinces would open out for them.

It was under these circumstances that the Dominion of Canada was inaugurated on the first of July, 1867, under the sover-