

been represented, as it ought to have been, in the negotiations of those who adopted a more enlightened policy, the result would have been that the momentous question would now be in a state to be brought before the new Parliament, under conditions much more auspicious than can possibly accompany its presentation. It is our own shortsighted pertinacity that has precluded those advantages and facilities that might have paved the way to a solution of every difficulty surrounding the subject, by the coming Parliament, in a way alike satisfying to the minds and promotive of the interests of the entire population of the Island. Our Government resolved, unhappily and most unwisely, not to entertain the overtures of Union under any conditions, and have, in consequence, lost a most propitious juncture for procuring the ready acquiescence of the other parties to the compact, in all our reasonable requisitions.

Singularly enough, however, it falls out that the Leader of the Government, at whose door lies the largest amount of responsibility for that sad oversight, is now found arrayed on the side of Confederation, and has actually become one of its most zealous advocates! Has he too been won over to the theory he so sturdily opposed when in power by some golden premium on corruption? Is he to be suspected of having, when in England, listened to the seducing promises of unprincipled diplomatists, and entered into fellowship with men who have unanimously resolved to immolate on