

be wondered at that factionism and extremely violent faction disputes, should prevail, to the prejudice of the more important public interests. Such is found to be the fact; and it will be found that dissensions between what are called "political parties," upon questions entirely unimportant, or of so disagreeably mean a character that it is offensive to honorable and enlightened men to discuss them at all, are here frequent, violent, and protracted, just in inverse proportion to the population and extent of the Colony under consideration. In this respect, there is only too much reason to fear that these British North American Colonies are gradually becoming more immoral, politically, and worse. It is presumed that Your Grace must already, as a statesman of the Empire, and from occupying the position of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, have verified by personal knowledge the truth of the deplorable facts referred to within the last few sentences.

There is something in the politics of these Colonies which tends to constantly belittle the views and aspirations of the less intelligent and reflective portion of their inhabitants. Yet there is no ground to doubt that they are loyal and true, and mean well. But they have been entrusted with a constitutional machinery which, elsewhere and until within a recent period, they have seen solemnly applied only to great interests and essentially national questions; whilst they have to adapt it solely to petty, local interests. They estimate the magnitude of the subjects of their factional disputes by their preconceived conceptions of the magnitude of the machinery placed in their hands for settling them. Thus too many of our Colonial politicians make "much ado about nothing," or what is the next thing to nothing; whilst, as a very natural consequence of this, really important matters are lost sight of.

The proposition submitted to the consideration of Your Grace is, that if even the class of these Colonists whom we are now considering had much more important political objects thrust upon them, such as a *quasi* nationality would necessarily impose, legislation and the administration of public affairs throughout British America would become a more serious business, and would be conducted with vastly greater calmness, wisdom, and circumspection. That is an end which it seems possible to attain within a reasonable period of time, only by a Union of all the Colonies. The condition of every one of these Colonies, so far as their internal politics is to be considered, is deplorable, at the present time, and is daily growing worse. We are fast approaching the time when *all* of the talented and enlightened members of the community will abstain from taking any prominent part in our Colonial politics; and when the management of public affairs will wholly fall into the hands of violent factions, led by ignorant and narrow-minded, but cunning men.