

good as that of their neighbours ; and when fighting on their own soil, they would be equally difficult to subdue. With a small additional assistance, therefore, from us, and supposing the Colonists to be thoroughly loyal, which I believe they are, and am certain they have good reason to be, any chance of foreign conquest is altogether visionary. Every day that the present friendly Colonial policy is persevered in, they will find more and more reason to be staunch and true to themselves, and to us, besides discovering more reason to rejoice that they are not what is called Independent—a term which, if we analyze it closely, we shall commonly find a great misnomer.

If, however, we suppose the British Colonies added to the American Union, the whole face of maritime affairs in that Republic would at once be changed. I do not now ask whether such a change would, or would not, be for the better, as respects either of the parties concerned on that side of the water ; but there can be little doubt it would be a matter of serious consequence to England, to find the naval resources of the United States trebled, if not quadrupled, at a blow,—while our own would be diminished, if not exactly in the same ratio, certainly to an amount which, I am sure, if stated fairly, would induce many persons, who at present think lightly of the Colonies, to consider