

country's future determined—through the “silent eloquence of a vote.”

A people in a situation of distress need not abandon a cause because limited in physical resources, or because the odds against them are apparently overpowering. “The race is not always to the swift, nor the battle to the strong.” Unforeseen circumstances may in a moment give a favorable impetus to events, and carry a project to a successful issue, if it be but persistently pressed. The Roman Senator who finished every speech, no matter what the subject with—“Carthage must be destroyed”—nerved the Romans for the accomplishment of the act. In all proper positions, with no deviating earnestness, hopeful under any temporary cloud of adversity, our watchword must be—“ACADIA MUST BE ANNEXED.”

A celebrated member of Parliament told the people of England that they might as well petition the rock of Gibraltar for a repeal of the Corn Laws, as petition that body. But the agitation went on,—Parliament was petitioned again and again, and the Corn Laws were abolished. And so it was with Slavery and the Slave Trade*, with Catholic and with Jewish Disabilities, with Parliamentary abuses, and with other reforms. But these were all needed because affecting disastrously the national character; needed to assimilate in some degree the national freedom of England to the national freedom of America; nay, designed by Heaven, with the Naturalization Treaty which has just been effected, as stepping stones down the corridor of history, to that more comprehensive, if not more perfect Naturalization Treaty which shall be consummated when all these North American Colonies, having taken advantage of the relinquishment of the old dogma—“once a subject always a subject”—become part of one great people extending from ocean to ocean.

CONCLUSION.

In conformity with the decision of the Convention, which was called together in August last—“to seek a Repeal of the Union by all lawful and constitutional means”—the Local Government of the

* Two prominent opponents of the proposal to abolish Slavery and the Slave Trade were *military men*, Generals Tarleton and Gaseoyne. King George III., the Prince of Wales, and the whole Royal Family, with the exception of the Duke of Gloucester, were opposed to the abolition!