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A MONARCHY, OR A REPUBLIC! WHICH?

“History never repeats itself.” There may be parallelism, but there can never be the same sequence of events in the same country, or in different countries, at different times. This may, indeed, must be accepted as an historical axiom; for if it cannot be proved, neither can it be gained. It is a fact, then, that every nation, as it starts into independent life, comes to the birth under different circumstances from those which ushered in the existence of every other. And in no instance has this been more wonderfully illustrated than in the incidents now affecting the British American Provinces, and preparing them for union under a Central Government. So far as the records of the past are available, the world has never yet witnessed the foundations of a State laid under such a happy combination of favouring circumstances as those which at the present moment are inviting Canada and the maritime provinces to unite, and form themselves into a compact and powerful nation. Everything connected with them both at home and abroad points to union not only as best in itself, but as the most easily attainable end they can achieve. Everything invites the attempt; everything promises success; and a golden opportunity for accomplishing a great work is presented to the people of British America; the world looking on the while encouraging them to begin, and wishing them “God speed” in their glorious undertaking.

What are the facts of the case? They are broadly these. Supposing the provinces wish to form an union among themselves, they cannot be opposed; and they would receive all the assistance that could possibly