

be characterized as Imperial; the rest were properly referable to the localities immediately affected by them.* . . .

An office, presided over by a shifting partizan, however able, however honest, however industrious—actually conducted by a permanent staff, seldom, if ever, selected for any reputation of experience in colonial life—an office, to visit which is for a Colonist like reconnoitring an enemy—to negotiate with which is like a war parley, and to assault which needs almost a forlorn hope and a battery—is, spite of any brilliant abilities existing in it, incapable of discharging with success the infinitely varied, numerous, delicate, and detailed duties essential to its business. To every Colony, each with its own wrongs or rights or difficulties, such an office is sure to appear unwise or tyrannical, because, in its very constitution, its aspect is to them *foreign*. Their delegates do not meet officials from their own colony—they meet bigoted domestic Englishmen. Not infrequently, before they can open a negotiation, or even make a statement, they are obliged to give imperfect instruction in the conditions of the people or places to be the subject of official attention. This cannot continue long. The Colonies must have better audience at Whitehall, or they will have done knocking at our doors. . . .

A senate or parliament of representatives from every province, deliberating in public, and acting on the decision of the majority, would of necessity satisfy all the objections to the present system. All other schemes, such as that of a representative Colonial Council, Colonist Ministers, limited representation in the Imperial Parliament, and so forth, dwindle before the practical simplicity of federal union. . . .

* I had myself made a similar analysis for the Sessions 1869 and 1870. It was not made with great nicety, but is sufficiently accurate, and *apropos* to subjoin:—

Acts.	1869.	1870.
England	49	35
Ireland	10	16
England and Ireland	8	5
United Kingdom	34	38
Man, &c.	0	4
India	9	3
Colonies	4	3
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	117	112
Private Acts	171	181
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	288	293