

comprising upwards of twenty degrees of latitude and sixty of longitude,—extending from Canada and Labrador to the Pacific Ocean,—containing millions of square miles which exceed in fertility, climate, and other natural advantages the most favoured portions of Great Britain and Ireland, are to be made over to this handful of persons until the Americans choose to take possession, the public have at least a right to know who they are. The list might possibly throw light on the mysterious agencies by which the national interests have so long been sacrificed, quite as significant as the fact that the Right Honourable Edward Ellice is brother-in-law to the present Earl Grey, who was Colonial Minister when the Company got its license renewed, and received a gift of Vancouver's Island into the bargain.

If Her Majesty's present advisers mean to adopt the course which their predecessors were prepared to take on this Hudson's Bay question, and if Parliament and people should acquiesce in the unjust and impolitic arrangements sketched in this official correspondence, it requires no extraordinary powers of divination to foresee that we shall lose all of these territories worth possessing as unwisely as we lost the American Colonies, and, not improbably, Canada along with them. Such would seem to be their present intention, for in answer to a deputation from the Aborigine's Protection Society, on Friday, March 19, Lord Stanley, the present Colonial Minister, stated that he could make no declaration of ministerial policy on the Hudson's Bay question, because the reply of the Canadian Government to Mr. Labouchere's proposals had not yet been received. The presumption, therefore, is that if the Canadian Government closes with these proposals, the Earl of Derby will follow the path chalked out by Lord Palmerston, thus missing a golden opportunity of serving the country, and, at the same time, greatly strengthening his own administration.

But what will the people of Canada say to such an arrangement? They are greatly and justly excited on this question. They are at present as loyal as any other subjects of the British