

Provinces, and form a Province uniting in itself all the population and all the resources of the whole.

The Committee, of course, cannot suppose that the British Government share the ignorance with regard to the history and character of the Federal scheme which appears to prevail among the British public, and which induces the "Times" newspaper of 20th June to observe that "the two Canadas have put aside their ancient jealousies, and are ready to meet in a common Legislature," in apparent forgetfulness of the fact that they have so met for the last five and twenty years, and very probably without any consciousness on the part of the writer of the article that the jealousies between the Canadas, said to have been put aside, are avowedly the cause of the late proposal; and that its authors, in the event of its failure, are pledged to restore to Upper and Lower Canada a great measure of the local independence surrendered by them in 1840.

The resolutions agreed to by the leading Canadian politicians in the month of June, 1864, as the basis of the formation of the existing Cabinet, and adopted solely under the pressure of local exigencies, contain the statement that "on consideration of the steps most advisable for the final settlement of sectional difficulties, the remedy must be sought in the adoption of the federal principle," and provide that if such negotiations were unsuccessful, they would be "prepared to pledge themselves to legislation during the next Session of Parliament, for the purpose of remedying existing difficulties, by introducing the federal principle for Canada alone."

It is perfectly clear that "the existing difficulties" were the motive and groundwork of the scheme, and that the federal union was only sought as a means of separating the Canadas—a separation which the Canadian Government are pledged in all events immediately to effect—a fact which perhaps sufficiently accounts for the eagerness with which they seek to force its immediate adoption upon unwilling communities; for they are well aware that did the plan avowedly contemplate only the separation of the Canadas, it would be impossible even speciously to present it to the Imperial Government as in any manner a scheme of union.

Mr. Cardwell is perfectly right in supposing that the views and wishes of Great Britain are entitled to great weight; and they will ever be received with respectful attention in this Province; but the Committee feel certain that if there be one view with regard to the Colonies which is more clearly and distinctly held than another, by Her Majesty's Government and the people of England; if there be one wish on their part with respect to which there can be neither hesitation nor doubt, it is that the people of this Province, and of others enjoying through the wise liberality of England, Parliamentary institutions and free self-government, should act in reference to their own affairs as seems to themselves most consistent with their duty to their Sovereign and most conducive to their own interests.

To confer on this Province a right of self government would have been mockery, if, in consequence of its claims to deference as a protector, the wish of the Mother Country was in all cases to be followed whenever expressed, whatever the opinion of those to whom the power of judging has been solemnly entrusted by the Sovereign and Legislature of Great Britain, and who, being on the spot and fully conversant with the subject, considered themselves not unable to judge with respect to their own affairs. When a wish is expressed by Her Majesty's Government, it will be received with that deference which is due to suggestions emanating from so high a source, and will be considered with an anxious desire to meet the views of Her Majesty's advisers; but if such views should unfortunately not coincide with the views of those on whom alone the responsibility of action in the Province falls, the Committee feel assured that Her Majesty's Government will expect and desire that the Government of this Province should act according to their own convictions of right, and in conformity with the sentiments of the people they represent.

(Signed) R. D. WILMOT, BLISS BOTSFORD,
T. W. ANGLIN, W. H. ODELL,
GEORGE L. HATHEWAY, R. HUTCHISON,
A. H. GILLMOR, JR.

Council Chamber, Fredericton, July 12, 1865.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Lieutenant Governor
Downing Street, 4th August, 1865.

SIR.—I have received your Despatch of the 15th July, in answer to mine of the 24th June.

It might, perhaps, have been well, that that portion of the Executive Council who are in New Brunswick, should have allowed the communication made to the Colony by Her Majesty's Government to be generally known and considered before they returned so decided a reply.

The first paragraph of the Minute seems to me to require no other notice than the observation that my Despatch enclosed for the information of the Legislature of New Brunswick the record of what had passed between Her Majesty's Government and the Ministers of Canada on the subject of Confederation; and it was therefore impossible for any one to misunderstand the reference, or to suppose that it applied to another and a different scheme.

Notwithstanding therefore your Despatch and its enclosures, I still confidently anticipate that the serious consideration of the Province of New Brunswick will be given to the earnest and friendly suggestions which, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, it has been my duty to convey to them through you.

I have, &c. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Government House, 22nd Aug., 1865.

His Honor the Administrator of the Government has been pleased to direct that the following Despatch, with Enclosure, be published for general information.

(CIRCULAR)

Downing Street, 31st July, 1865.

SIR.—I have the honor to transmit to you a Copy of a Treaty of Commerce, which was concluded on the 30th of May last, between Her Majesty and the Zollverein, the Ratifications of which were exchanged at Berlin on the 30th ultimo.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Treaty of Commerce between Her Majesty and the Zollverein.

Signed at Berlin, May 30, 1865.

[Ratifications exchanged at Berlin, June 30, 1865.]

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, on the one part; and

His Majesty the King of Prussia in his own name, and representing the sovereign States and territories united to the Prussian system of Customs and contributions, that is to say, the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, the enclaves of the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Rossow, Netzeband, and Schoenberg, the Principality of Birkenfeld belonging to the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg, the Duchy of Anhalt, the Principalities of Waldeck and Pyrmont, the Principality of Lippe, and the Grand Bailiwick of Meisenheim belonging to the Landgraviate of Hesse, as well as in the name of the other members of the German Association of customs and commerce, that is to say, the Crown of Bavaria, the Crown of Saxony, the Crown of Hanover, as well for itself as for the Principality of Schaumburg-Lippe, and the Crown of Wurtemberg, the Grand Duchy of Baden, the Electorate of Hesse, the Grand Duchy of Hesse, as well for itself as for the Bailiwick of Homburg belonging to the Landgraviate of Hesse, the States forming the Customs and Commercial Union of Thuringia, viz., the Grand Duchy of Saxony, the Duchies of Saxe-Meiningen, of Saxe-Altenburg, of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, the Principalities of Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt and of Schwarzburg-Sondershausen, of the elder branch of Reuss and of the younger branch of Reuss, the Duchy of Brunswick, the Duchy of Oldenburg, the Duchy of Nassau, and the Free Town of Frankfort, on the other part;

Being equally animated by the desire of regulating and extending the commercial relations between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and its dependencies, and the Zollverein, have resolved to conclude a Treaty for that purpose, and have named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Right Honourable Francis Baron Napier of Merchiston, a Peer of Scotland, a Baronet of Nova Scotia, a Member of Her Britannic Majesty's Privy Council, Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to His Majesty the King of Prussia, &c.; and John Ward, Esquire, Her Majesty's Charge d'Affaires and Consul-General to the Hanse Towns, and Consul-General in Hanover, Oldenburg, &c.;

And His Majesty the King of Prussia, M. Otto Eduard Leopold von Bismarck Schoenhausen, President of his Ministry of State, and Minister of Foreign Affairs; M. Johann Friedrich von Pommer Esche, his Actual Privy Councillor; M. Alexander Maximilian Philipsborn, Director in his Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and M. Martin Friedrich Rudolph Delbruck, Director in his Ministry for Commerce, Trade, and Public Works;

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found to be in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:—

ARTICLE I.

The subjects of Her Britannic Majesty who dwell either temporarily or permanently in the States of the Zollverein, and the subjects of the States of the Zollverein who dwell either temporarily or permanently in the dominions or possessions of Her Britannic Majesty, shall enjoy therein, in respect to the exercise of commerce and trades, the same rights as, and be subject to no higher or other taxes than, the subjects of any third country the most favoured in those respects.

ARTICLE II.

The produce and manufacture of the dominions and possessions of Her Britannic Majesty which may be imported into the Zollverein, and the produce and manufactures of the States of the Zollverein which may be imported into the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, whether intended for consumption, warehousing, re-exportation, or transit, shall therein be treated in the same manner as, and in particular shall be subject to no higher or other duties than, the produce and manufactures of any third country the most favoured in those respects.

ARTICLE III.

No other or higher duties shall be levied in the Zollverein on the exportation of any goods to the dominions and possessions of Her Britannic Majesty, nor in the dominions and possessions of Her Britannic Majesty on the exportation of any goods to the Zollverein, than are or may be levied on the exportation of the like goods to any third country the most favoured in that respect.