



farmer, in setting out an orchard, would calculate and provide the space which one hundred apple trees would require for their growth and expansion in the course of fifty years. It is not yielding to a fanciful or arrogant ambition, or a vague and visionary doctrine of "manifest destiny"; for a nation like ours to set itself soberly at work, to make provision for that very growth which Europe thrusts upon us. ¶ Now it is not the idea of fillibusters, or of the "Knights of the Golden Circle" but the sober, second thought of a candid and intelligent man, entertained for years before this outbreak, that, at some future doubling of our population, our relations with the Mexican States, and with the British Provinces in America, must assume a new basis, ~~and~~ bringing them into a more intimate connection with us. This idea, unquestionably, was prevailed more extensively among what may be called conservative men, than the public press has ever indicated. But I am confident, that both conservatives and radicals, in adopting this idea, have left out of their conclusion one important contingency. They have overlooked the fact, that we cannot enter into any permanent and intimate political connection with the Mexican States or the British Provinces, without adding a new circle to our Federal system, and becoming a Union of Nations. It may be well for all who have thought upon this matter, to let their <sup>minds</sup> settle down upon this conclusion, that if Mexico shall ever find her advantage in becoming united, or permanently associated with us, it must be as a whole, as an entire nation, retaining all the internal functions of its sovereignty, with its own Federal Congress, its laws, customs, religion and language intact. We may assume it as certain, that no consideration could ever induce her to disperse the liens between her several States, give up her federal organization, and come into our Republic by piece-meal, or as California and Minnesota were admitted. On the other hand if the British Provinces in America, after having federated themselves in a Union of States, and established a central Parliament, at Ottawa or Montreal, should think it would promote their interests to form a permanent and intimate ~~association~~ connection with us, they would inevitably insist upon treating, and being treated, as a whole, as a national organization, retaining their own Parliament, their local sovereignty, and