

Parliament exclusive control and authority over a large number of other subjects. So great, indeed, was the reduction made by the Act of Union, in the legislative sphere of the Provinces, that the division of any of our Local Legislatures on political party grounds, is now a thing of doubtful propriety. Do not understand me to imply, however, that the functions remaining to be performed by the provincial authorities are unimportant. To say so would be obviously incorrect. Some of the most necessary branches of the public service fall within the purview of our provincial Administrations. The laws in relation to Education, Municipal institutions in the Province, the maintenance of our Roads and Bridges, and the Administration of Justice, including the constitution and organization of our provincial Courts, are, with many others, subjects that come exclusively within the powers of the Provinces. These are subjects of vital concern to us all, and they form a triumphant answer to those who say that our local legislative bodies have nothing of consequence to attend to. There is plenty to tax their best attention, without interfering with matters constitutionally consigned to other hands and authorities. The same observation holds good in respect of the Parliament of Canada. All unnecessary friction between the Provincial and Federal powers should be avoided. Of course, all the several sections of the country have individual rights and interests which must be asserted and guarded, but the supreme desideratum is to promote the order, progress, and contentment of "one harmonious whole." An undue assertion of the individuality often results in mischief.

PARTY ALLEGIANCE.

I have often thought that we would be spared a great deal of annoyance if this party system of conducting our affairs did not exist. The system may not be an evil *per se*; perhaps it is the abuse of it that bothers us. Certain it is that we must have some mode or principle of government, and this one appears to be inherent in the institutions of our country. Another might be worse. At all events we must make a virtue of necessity, and suffer the ills we have, so far as the system is concerned.