

Lord Durham's views have not been, nor are likely to be realized in this respect, they nevertheless appear to be sound and the segregation of the people of Quebec from the rest of the people of Canada serves to put the people of that Province in a position of disadvantage in regard to the rest of the Dominion, from which their language more or less cuts them off. At the same time the peculiar characteristics of the people of that Province, their culture, their religious devotion, their thrift, and industry are a valuable asset in the life of the Dominion not to be despised, even though not so beneficial for the common good as they might be, if exercised in a wider field than the limits of one Province.

Lord Durham was strongly impressed with the desirability of a federal union of all the British North American Provinces, though on maturer considerations he came to the conclusion that such a step would be premature, he therefore limited his suggestion in that respect to the reunion of the Canadas under one Government, but with power to the other colonies to come into the union which was the course immediately adopted, but it was not until 1867 that the wider project was accomplished.

He also insisted that no money votes should be allowed to originate without the previous consent of the Crown. The adoption of which suggestion has put a stop to the wholesale waste of public funds which previously prevailed.

Although Lord Durham very ably accomplished the task for which he was sent out, his mission ended unfavourably for himself. In order to get rid of some political offenders in Upper Canada in as mild and gentle a manner as possible these men, about six in all, who admitted their guilt, and put themselves on the mercy of the Crown, were sentenced to banishment to the Island of Bermuda. This mild and gentle sentence however was *ultra vires* of the Governor. He might have sentenced them to transportation to a penal colony, but he had no authority to send them to Bermuda, nor had the Governor of Bermuda any authority to detain them there as prisoners. This objection when raised might easily have been overcome by the British Government had it been so disposed, but instead of standing by their servant they suffered him to be condemned for acting illegally in his office