

hours after, from the window, which commanded the wide basin below the city, I saw the dark form of that ill-omened ship slowly, and as it were painfully, struggling on its course. My heart filled with many a bitter regret, many a superstitious presentiment, and alas ! many too true misgivings. We dined that evening at Mr. Daly's, and the party was composed of Mr. Turton, my brother, and myself, forming with him the last remains of Lord Durham's government. It was a mournful meeting, and none mourned more deeply than our kind and honourable host, who said that with Lord Durham's departure all his hope had gone. A heavy fall of snow was setting in as we left the house, and the very morning after the winter was completely set in. The next day we heard the alarming report that Lord Durham's worst forebodings had been nigh being fulfilled in the most fearful manner by a fire on board the ship. This was perfectly true ; not so the reports which reached us every now and then during the next fortnight to the effect that Lord Durham had been forced to put into Halifax, or that he had been driven ashore on some other part of the coast. After fearful perils at the outset, the *Inconstant* kept on her course to its appointed end amid almost perpetual storms, which did not cease even when she had reached the shelter of Plymouth Sound.

Thus ended Lord Durham's mission to Canada, and instead of bringing those great results to the country, and that harvest of honour and power to himself, for which we had hoped, and for which we had all laboured, it seemed at its close to have ended in nothing but disappointment to all concerned in it. Its most fatal consequence, indeed, was his feeling that disappointment so acutely, and that, sickened by the malignity and weakness of which he had been the victim, he from the hour of his return gave way to a depression that quickened the progress of his malady. Many of those who enthusiastically rallied around him on his return, have since reproached him that he threw away the opportunity of complete justification and satisfaction, and refused to take that position in the political world which seemed to invite him. But this course he took after full and anxious consideration, and took as wisely as I am sure he did it honestly. Abstaining from all public part in general politics, he reserved himself for Canada alone. Nor did he seek to urge on the discussion of that topic. When Lord Winchelsea imprudently attempted to renew his persecution of Mr. Turton, Lord Durham's short and vigorous speech scared his assailants, and at once and for