

We cannot conclude our labors as editor-in-chief of this journal without noticing that the time has come when the Celtic and Anglo-Saxon races in this country should make their sentiments and power felt. It is time—and more than time—that it was declared and understood that the English language, and it alone, shall be used as the national speech of this country. The French should be taken out of every court from Cape Breton to Alaska; we say from every court—including the Dominion House. A bi-lingual nation is no nation at all. It is time, and more than time, that Roman Catholicism in every form should be taught that, while it shall be entitled to every right which Protestants claim for themselves, it shall have no right which they have not. It is time, and more than time, that separate schools, except as private institutions, were swept out of existence, and that all classes and creeds of Canadian citizens received one system of education—a system controlled by the state, and influenced by no religious body whatsoever; that the pastors of every denomination shall have the power of giving whatever religious instruction they please to the children of their denomination; but that no sectarian teaching shall be done in school hours. It is time, and more than time, that the Bible—the Word of God, and not a mangled compilation of its books, no matter who does the compiling, should be read every day in the schools of our country, and that no one should be excused from hearing such reading. Upon the supremacy of these principles, and such as these, depends the future welfare of our country, and we believe that the time is near when Canadians from the Atlantic to the Pacific will insist upon their observance. It is not “liberality,” but the most contemptible poltroonery, to concede an iota on points like this to any body of men on earth; and the day is on the wing, if not, indeed, already dawning, when they will be advocated by pulpit, press and people, and obedience to them insisted upon by every class and creed of Canadian citizens.

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“Now hear the end of all the play.”

To our readers each and all, we bid adieu. We are sorry to part from you, but we shall meet again in other and broader spheres of life. For those who predicted our failure we have a smile, for our friends a tear—and to each of our fellow-citizens throughout the Dominion we waft as our last words—

“To thine own self be true!

And it must follow as the night the day,
Thou canst not then be false to any man.”

* ASSOCIATE * EDITORIALS. *

IT is not all plain sailing as regards federation, at least so far as our sister university is concerned. The opponents of federation are fighting hard for independence and have at least invoked the aid of the courts of

law. There are points as to this course which we do not care to discuss, but we may express our regret that this has been deemed necessary by the parties interested. What the outcome will eventually be no one can conjecture.

We would have liked, however, to see historic Victoria maintain with us an independent position, believing as we do that in this character the church and country would be better served in the matter of higher education than by federation. She has certainly done a magnificent work for nearly half a century, struggling, it is true, against financial difficulties but nevertheless maintaining a high standard of collegiate education.

To us it seems that in entering federation Victoria goes to her death. However, there are those who think differently, who are urging with all haste this movement. Federation, *per se*, is not viewed by some of the advocates as the most desirable end to be attained; it is accepted only as an alternative—for if financial means were forthcoming they would infinitely prefer independence. Here is a point for the Antis., so called. Surely, they hold, there is wealth and spirit enough in the Methodist church to continue and maintain their own university; even now it may not be too late for the alumni and other friends to open their hearts and purses and prevent what many friends of education would deem a calamity. The church and country have derived immense benefit from Victoria university; why, then, should its usefulness be destroyed?

It is said of the late Hon. Mr. McMaster, who so liberally endowed McMaster university, that when asked why, in view of provision being made to federate with Toronto University, he was seeking a charter for an independent university, replied: “I have been an observer for many years of the great benefit conferred by Victoria college on the Methodist church and I am satisfied and hope that what Victoria has done for that church, McMaster can and will do for the Baptist church.” Weighty words from such a man! Surely there must be something wrong when *not one of the other universities in Ontario* can see its way clear to enter federation. Has there not been undue haste in forcing so rapidly a consummation dreaded by so many of Victoria’s warmest friends? Make haste slowly, for if once entered there can be no return to independence with honour.

In this discussion a great deal of bitterness, we regret to say, has been evoked and words used that had better not have been uttered. This should not be. For even though the friends of Victoria differ in their opinions, are they not all brethren? Let the spirit of conciliation be more munificent and order may yet emerge out of what now seems confusion.

Again we repeat, let the supporters of Victoria Independent pile up a sum of money to make her so. Imitate, in short, the example of the benefactors of Queen’s who *in one year* expressed their opinion of federation by giving \$250,000 with more to come. By doing this they will in the best possible way save Victoria. So may it be.