

the task of government without in any wise impairing the prerogatives of the Crown and it is along these lines that the political development of Canada has since taken place.

He also insisted that the wholesale jobbery in the Crown Lands must be put an end to, and that a system of sale should be adopted freed from the red-tape methods which had previously prevailed. But his suggestion that their administration should be confided to an Imperial authority was very properly rejected. He pointed out with fairness and justice the circumstances which rendered the Imperial Act authorizing the Clergy Reserves unfair to the population generally, and which necessitated its repeal and the leaving to the Canadian Parliament the disposition of the Reserves which had been actually made. He also pointed out the necessity of establishing a municipal system which would enable the various municipalities to legislate for themselves in matters of a purely local nature, and thus relieve the Parliament of a multitude of petty local affairs; and he declared that the establishment of municipal institutions for the whole country should be made a part of every colonial constitution. We who are accustomed to the fruition of this suggestion can well appreciate what a boon it is.

With regard to Lower Canada he was of the opinion that its best interests would be served by measures which promoted the rapid Anglicizing of its people. The Norman Conquest had proved in the Mother Country that the assimilation by the English people of the Norman conquerors was not an impossibility. To Lord Durham it may have seemed possible that a like assimilation and amalgamation of races could, and should, take place in Lower Canada. But, unfortunately for Lord Durham's views in this respect, the reverse has happened and the English, instead of absorbing the French, have themselves to a large extent been absorbed by the French, and so far as intermarriage has taken place between the two races it has rather resulted in the increase of French than English. It is of course to be remembered that in Lower Canada the French from the first were largely in the majority, and that they have proved themselves to be an extraordinarily prolific race, but notwithstanding that