

LIBERTY is no longer inscribed on the side of the head, but appears on a riband which crosses the shield; the dress is unincinctured: the hair is unconfined, and the head is turned back as if regarding the distance or the past.

On the shields of arms with which the Provinces of the Canadian Dominion have been provided, none of the emblems on which I have been discoursing are emblazoned. The French-speaking portions of our people are familiar, indeed, with caps; with *bonnets*, as they style them. As a matter of fact, a few years since, a stout *pileus* of wool, of the ancient egg-shape pattern, formed a part of the ordinary dress of the *habitan*, found to be especially convenient, when in a driving snow-storm, the capote was to be raised and drawn over the head; and, verbally at least, our compatriots know of the *bonnet rouge* and the *bonnet bleu* as badges of faction; but they do not unitedly take kindly to either of them: the former indicating principles too broad, the latter, principles too narrow, for men who live under a civil constitution derived from England. Other portions of our people, too, are exercised in a somewhat similar way over colours, and train themselves at considerable expense, and their families, to mutual aversions and predilections, on grounds succinctly indicated to the popular eye by yellow and green. But disintegrating symbols, such as are these, have no place on the escutcheon of our Confederation. We see there the Cross of St. George, the Thistle of Scotland, the Lion of England, the Fleur-de-lis of France, perhaps the Leopard of Normandy. We are thus reminded of our common blood-connection with nations beyond the ocean-stream, and are taught not to break with the illustrious past of our ancestors. We see there, also, allegorically set forth, some of the sources of the public wealth. We have on the shield of Nova Scotia, the cod, to denote the fisheries of our many coasts; we have on that of New Brunswick a ship, to denote our interest in navigation and commerce. We see the maple-branch depicted more than once, to

indicate the treasures and splendours of our forests. (The pine should, perhaps, also have been somewhere there, to represent the interests of our laborious lumbermen.) The beaver, which is seen there, and which sometimes surmounts the whole shield, was originally introduced among the insignia of Canada on account of the value of that animal's fur, which was long regarded as Canada's chief attraction in the eye of France. (It is seen on Louis XIV.'s fine *Kebece Liberata* medal, struck to celebrate Sir W. Phipps's repulse in 1690.) But as the years have glided by, the beaver has acquired claims to our regard from a point of view other than that of the trader in peltries. The beaver is not a bad cognisance for a young country which is shaping itself out of the rough; for he is an enterprising pioneer of the wilderness; a clearer and improver of the ground; a clever feller of trees; an ingenious constructor of dams and utiliser of waters; and his aims are all laudably domestic; he is a comfortable, prudent, family animal, and must have a lodge and home of his own: he therefore builds for himself a spacious house and provides it with convenient surroundings; and at frequent intervals he sends from his abode an able-bodied detachment, to go and do elsewhere in the land as he himself has done. The one only decoration of the escutcheon of our neighbours to the south, which I should be inclined to borrow, would be old Sylvanus Urban's *E pluribus unum*, if that would spur us on to work with earnestness on the principle which the words suggest. We have need in our Canadian Dominion, and shall have need for many years, of an amalgam of some kind to bind us together, and make us, of many, to be ONE. As to the cap of Liberty, we want not to see it on our money or surmounting our flags. Having the reality of a reasonable, temperate, guaranteed freedom, we can dispense with all symbols which, "paltering in a double sense," too often

"Keep the word of promise to our 'eye'
And break it to our hope."