

measure the offspring of these older Provinces. Quebec, Lower Canada, stands in a different position.

When the independence of the United States was admitted in 1783, many American Colonists left the new Republic and made their way to the North. These men had the misfortune that they had supported a Lost Cause; like the Cavaliers of the times of Charles I, they clung to their allegiance, but unlike them their cause did not again triumph; they have therefore had hard measure at the hands of American historians, until but the other day no virtue could be found in the Tories of the Revolution, they were considered traitors to liberty, haters of freedom, supporters of tyranny, what not? We know them as United Empire Loyalists who kept their faith, who gave up all, even sometimes life itself that the Empire might remain United even as thousands decades thereafter, gave up everything that the United States might remain United. They were not different from other Americans in love of freedom any more than their congeners the Cavaliers differed from other Englishmen, but they believed——at least they hoped——that their undoubted rights would be best attained by constitutional means and that the arbitrament of the cannon and the bayonet was not necessary. These men

"Got them out into the Wilderness,

The stern old Wilderness;

But then——'twas British Wilderness!"

" they who loved

The cause that had been lost—and kept their faith

To England's Crown and scorned an alien name.

Passed into exile; leaving all behind

Except their honour

Not drooping like poor fugitives they came

In exodus to our Canadian wilds,

But full of heart and hope, with head erect

And fearless eye, victorious in defeat;

With thousand toils they forced their devious way

Through the great wilderness of silent woods

That gloomed o'er lake and stream, till higher rose

The Northern Star above the broad domain

Of half a continent, still theirs to hold,

Defend and keep forever as their own."

They were Americans and brought with them an ardent love of liberty but they also brought with them the determination not to give up their share in the old flag in the traditions of the people, they would not cut themselves adrift from the rest of their race.

The two principles brought into my Province by the