

and inexhaustible resources, and the military support and protection of the mother country, this British America would not yield in importance to the gigantic but unwieldy and disjointed Republic itself. The principles of government in these united provinces should be, as much as possible—centralization, in order to break or smooth down the differences of origin and local feeling ; a perfectly free Legislative Assembly, with a vigorous and judicious Executive ; patronage fairly distributed and scrupulously confined to the people of the country, a liberal but not extravagant distribution of honours for civil and other services and merits, the perfect independence of the judicial bench, and the Legislative Council beyond the popular control, but at the same time as little as possible under the influence of the prerogative.

It would be difficult to decide whether Montreal or Quebec is better fitted for the future metropolis of such a country. Montreal stands in a richer district, has better and more general communications, a much more convenient river frontage, and, from the level nature of its site, allows of greater regularity in building, and an unlimited extension ; it is also one-fifth more populous and undeniably the handsomer and more thriving city of the two.