

"They say thy hills are bleak,
They say thy glens are bare—
But oh! they know not what fond hearts
Are nurtured there.

"Scotland! I love thee well,
Thy dust is dear to me—
This distant land is very fair,
But not like thee."

It matters not on what line of latitude or longitude it may be, one's native land should be the dearest, sweetest, and most hallowed spot on this side of heaven. Canada, our country! we love it; and because we love it, we wish you, young men, to be worthy of it. Our fathers have done much. They came from almost every country beneath the sun. They were a varied people; and we are, to some extent, varied still. Their national, educational, and ecclesiastical prejudices were varied. They had but one thing to bind them together;—the deep fertile soil beneath their feet, and the clear canopy of the bright blue sky above their heads. Pioneers in this goodly land, some have found a home—many only a grave, and on the resting-place of these we should tread lightly, doing reverence to their ashes, and living so as to honor them. With you, young men, I arm for the conflict, and gird myself for the coming struggle. We are the strength of the country. Upon us it depends whether, in twenty years, this country shall be progressive, and rise to assume its own just place in the heraldry of nations, and have the proud boast of possessing a God-fearing people; whether it shall become a dark spot in the geography of the world, and, by and by, vanish altogether; or whether intelligence and industry shall place Canada in the vanguard of nations.

XIV. HOME AND THE DOMESTIC AFFECTIONS.

(From an Address at Ottawa, July, 1856, by the Rev. Mr. Johnston, of that City.)

Home is the paradise of this terrestrial life. For there it is where all that is great and good, all that is noble and refined, all that permanently fits man for the fulfilment of the object of his creation ought first to be imparted to his thoughts, and interwoven with his affections and his desires. Other institutions of life may be good, but it is the well regulated institution of domestic life, and the proper government of home, that most deeply and permanently affects the well-being of mankind. Where the institutions of home government are defective, in vain will be the enactment of wholesome laws, or the efforts of an active police, or the establishment of public educational institutions, or the unsheathed sword of military power. On the other hand, where the fountains of moral life are purified by the principles inculcated at home, though other laws of society may be defective, and other institutions either faulty or inoperative—yet, like the waters of a stream issuing from a pure fountain, the manners of a people may now and again become partially polluted, but the stream which continues to flow from the fountain will wash the defilement away. Then may we not be permitted to assume that among the first and most imperative duties of man, after the worship he owes to his Maker, is the proper cultivation and government of the domestic affections and relations of life. Happy are the people whose religion inculcates, as a duty, the sacred obligations of social life. Happy are the people whose public laws give countenance and support to such teachings of religion. Happy are the people whose rulers set the example of reverence, for such teachings, and obedience to such laws. And truly blest is that nation, where, gathered around the domestic hearths of its palaces and its cottages, are a people who revere the pure, the hallowed, and the ennobling affections of parents and children, and all the domestic relations of home." It is true, the happiness, prosperity, and strength of a nation spring from those fountains which have their sources at the hearthstones of the people. If