

not be forgotten, not only fetters our own trade but prevents justice being done to the English author. The situation is a signal instance of the folly of allowing national sentiment to override national reason.

It may be that the day will come, however, when this country in the affair of copyright, as well perhaps as in other things, shall be sufficient unto itself; when our people shall lose the sense of dependence in literary matters on the nation to the south; when our publishers shall no longer be compelled to fold their hands and look on while a neighbour supplies the market; when, in short, we shall be free, as it has been phrased, to act with our own full weight in our own concerns. Until then we must be content to be under great disadvantages, and try to control our impatience at the country being restrained from rising to the true measure of its greatness.

You have been good enough to refer, in what I am sure are sincere terms, to my departure from Canada, and have said pleasant things of my connection with its literary enterprises and its publishing life. Believe me, I appreciate your kindness, though there is admonition in your words, for one's aims ever sadly outrun fulfilment. But what I have failed to do, that and more I have yet hope will soon be accomplished, for I leave many willing workers behind, and, of course, I have no notion that because of the defection of a single pen from the ranks of native writers, Canadian literature is going straightway to doom. Only remember, now and then, that your writers need recognition and encouragement, and that there are services which may be rendered to literature higher than those of a scuffer in politics. My friends of the Press will here, I trust, not misunderstand me. I make no attack upon them, but rather upon the system which makes political journalism a trade.

To step across the line, now that the two countries are drawn commercially so close together, involves, I need hardly say, no want of loyalty to Canada or of affection for the Motherland. You will therefore not consider me, in spirit at least, a deserter from the flag. That New York should draw from Toronto is as natural as that London should draw from my native city—the Scottish metropolis. On this continent the manufacturing centre for literature is not here; and to the manufacturing centre trade, and those engaged in it, will go whatever artificial barriers are in the way. If your market is for hogs you go to Chicago or Cincinnati; if literature, you go to New York or Boston; for it is the rule of the tanner, you know, that the tail goes with the hide.

But while I thus resign myself to the situa-

tion, I am far from feeling at ease in the prospect of quitting Canada. Here has been my field of work, here are my friends, and here the ties of blood. That I shall for many years be absent from Toronto, I hardly think likely; meantime I accept my exile, and will look back with longing eyes and a warm heart on Canada and on those whom I love.

Need I add that I shall miss the faces I see before me, and the kind greetings of those with whom I have for many years come in contact? But separated as we shall soon be, my heart will know no estrangement, for I go hence with your good wishes, and, thanks to your golden gift, may come again without fear of the constable.

Again thanking you, gentlemen, for your exceeding kindness, I bid you for a while good-bye.

Of the many tributes in the press to Mr. Adam's abilities and qualities, and expressions of regret at his departure from Canada, we shall quote but one—that of the *Bystander* of October:

The *Bystander* mourns the departure of Mr. G. Mercer Adam, who, after giving the best years of his life to the service of literature and the high class book-trade in Canada, has, like other men whom we could ill spare, accepted an invitation to New York, where he joins Mr. Lovell, the enterprising publisher, who is also an exile from Canada. We cannot wonder at these secessions. How is literature, how is the high-class book-trade to flourish here, under the present conditions? A Canadian writer can have no copyright of any value on his own continent, while, in his case, copyright in England is a name. The Canadian book-trade is cut off from its natural centres of distribution, to which it cannot resort without paying double duty. At the same time both writer and trade are exposed to the overwhelming influx of American reprints from English works, with which the Imperial copyright forbids the colony to compete. The literary calling in this country if it exists at all must exist almost apart from any hope of remuneration. Against such disadvantages what can vice-regal patronage avail?

COMPULSORY EDUCATION IN NEW YORK.

SECULAR education does not *per se* secure high moral attainments; but it appears to be almost a specific against juvenile crime in the large cities. An interesting experiment has