

continent, but that she should keep it through this new community already on the high-road to legislative independence.

The British Empire owes a debt which can never be overestimated to this somewhat depreciated war of 1812. Canada as a whole recognizes in it the war which to all time endorses her status as a nation ; but with Upper Canada inevitably the memories of the war are most closely intertwined. After the end of the war, on June 13, 1815, five days before Waterloo, Lord Bathurst wrote a dispatch to Sir Gordon Drummond, conveying the Prince Regent's acknowledgments to Drummond himself and to the army which he commanded in Canada. The dispatch concluded with the following words, as graceful as they were true : ' Nor is His Royal Highness insensible to the merits of the inhabitants of Upper Canada, or to the great assistance which the militia of the province afforded during the whole of the war. His Royal Highness trusts that you will express to them in adequate terms the high sense which he entertains of their services as having mainly contributed to the immediate preservation of the province and its future security.' Kingston, York, Burlington Heights, the banks of the Niagara river and the Thames, the settlements between Hamilton and Niagara, all under new names or under old are associated with the war. Every dwelling-place, every family in the peninsula between Lakes Erie and Ontario and on the Canadian shores of the lakes was scarred with the war. Every incident was burnt into the memories, every good fighting man's name was a household word. For here the Loyalists and their descendants lived : here they fought for their own, and they kept their own ; and their witness to-day, delightful to all who have the good fortune to visit it, is the little capital which was twice taken and raided—the great, bright city of Toronto.