

LAST Tuesday being ST. ANDREW'S DAY, the sons of Scotia did honor to the day by a procession to St. Andrew's Church, where an eloquent and impressive sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Gordon, Pastor of the Church and Chaplain to the Society. In the evening a grand banquet and ball was held in the Union House, the President, Dr. GRANT, presiding. On the toast of Her Majesty's Ministers being given by the Chairman,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE, Premier responded, and was received with loud applause. He said:—Mr. President, ladies, and gentlemen, —I have no doubt most of the ladies and a considerable proportion of the gentlemen present desire that I should be brief, and as I understand we are limited to twelve minutes each, I promise you not to trespass upon the prescribed limits. As one of Her Majesty's Ministers for this Colony, I am very much obliged for the manner in which you have received the toast just proposed, and although I cannot reply for the advisers of our Sovereign in her own peculiar home, I still venture to say that particular toast will be drunk in every part of the British Empire with as much enthusiasm as that of the Local Ministers. (Hear, hear.) It is a proud and happy circumstance in this country, at a meeting like the present, composed chiefly of Scotchmen, Scotchwomen, and their friends, that we gather, far from the shores that gave birth to ourselves or our forefathers, under the shadow of the British flag—the Union Jack of England, Scotland, and Ireland, with her Majesty's Red Coats upon every side of us (Cheers.) A few years ago a very insignificant portion of the people of Canada, and I hope as insignificant a proportion of the people on the other side of the Atlantic, were looking to the severance of the Mother country from the colonies as a matter of course, and only a matter of time. There has been within the last year or two, I am happy to say, a great change in public opinion in England upon that subject. I can scarcely call the extinction of the theory of severance in Canada a great change, there were so few who ever entertained it (Hear, hear.) We know that now the heart of the entire nation is sound upon the question, and where the doctrine of separation but a short time ago grew and flourished, there are very few who think of it, but a great majority are at once in favour of uniting still firmer the bonds that hold together all the portions of the earth that own our Sovereign's sway. (Cheers.) I was gratified beyond measure when a few days ago, I read, as I have no doubt you all have read, that excellent speech delivered at Edinburgh by one of the foremost Liberals of great Britain—one of Mr. Gladstone's late colleagues in the British Government—the Right Hon. W. E. Forster—in which he referred at length and with so much force to the Colonial Question. Some of that school of British politicians to which the Right Hon. gentlemen belongs were for some time supposed to look rather askance upon the colonies and colonists, believing it was not in the interests of the Empire that the connection should be prolonged indefinitely. The speech to which I have alluded is a practical renunciation on their behalf, I take it of their peculiar views. We know it is not the opinion of Her Majesty's advisers in Great Britain that the colonies should take to themselves a separate existence. No one desires more earnestly the continuance of that connection than the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the colonies, and that all his colleagues share

very cordially his views in that respect we have no reason to doubt. (Cheers.) I have already referred to the speech of Mr. Forster, and I may add that it cannot be otherwise than gratifying to find him, one of the greatest of British statesmen, taking that high and patriotic and reassuring ground which he took in his speech at Edinburgh. (Hear, hear.) May we not hope, sir, that there is no gentleman in public life possessed of any influence, possessed of any character, who will give utterance to or entertain other sentiments than those expressed by him upon that occasion, and carried into actual practice by Her Majesty's present government in England? (Hear, hear.) May we not hope, too, that there shall be no doubt as to the intimacy of the relationship to be maintained between the English speaking people now forming the British Empire and the Crown and person of Her Majesty, and all her successors to the end of time? (Loud and prolonged cheering.) It is a grand and glorious thing to reflect upon that these English speaking people, planted in such numbers all over the world, can be united by one firm and lasting bond, at any rate, which will always keep their hopes and aspirations in one direction, and that the Sovereign of Great Britain will continue to preside over, guard and guide their destinies, even if they are themselves scattered over the entire face of the globe; while their very existence will be a guarantee not only for the peace of nations, but for the progress of civilization and enlightenment over the whole surface of the earth. (Cheers.) And, sir, it is the proudest position that Great Britain could occupy, so far as the relations of men with each other are concerned, that the overshadowing power and influence which she has long possessed in giving shape to the destinies and relations of nations, are always exercised with a view to the amelioration of the condition of mankind—that she has the will as well as the power to maintain in a great measure the peace of the rest of the world—and that prosperity, peace and contentment have followed her flag all over the earth upon whatever soil it has ever been planted. (Loud Cheers.) May its march of triumph never be interrupted, until it shall become the one absorbing and powerful instrumentality in the hands of Providence for the prevention of war, the extension of commerce, and the promotion of the arts of peace. (Cheers.) I feel it very proud to have it in my power, as a member of Her Majesty's Government in this country, to assure you that to whatever extent the Administration of which I have the honor to be a member may have in their power, they will contribute to the rearing of this political cairn—if I may use that Scottish term upon this occasion—which will be the most conspicuous monument to the honour of humanity that has ever been erected or ever can be. (Cheers.) As Scotchmen, while ever loyal to the sentiments which the memories of our native country engender, and while at meeting of this kind craving permission to speak in terms of eulogy of its excellence as we speak of no other, let us never forget that in the community in which we move we form but a small portion of the whole—a community which contains within its borders, and all upon equal terms as the subjects of our Queen, people of almost every nationality under the sun—but especially the people of England and Ireland, whose numbers largely exceed our own. While, therefore, we remember with gratitude the land of our birth, while our hearts are fired with the warmest patriotism when its history and its heroes are recalled to our minds, let us remember

that we have greater duties and responsibilities, not of a sectional but of a national character, and that we ought to devote our selves faithfully and honestly to the task of creating and upholding in Canada a Canadian spirit, Canadian sentiment, and Canadian enthusiasm—in short, a spirit of nationality always British, but still Canadian. (Loud Cheers.) Anything that Her Majesty's present Ministers in Canada can do to promote these national sentiments will be cheerfully and willingly done, and with a zeal and earnestness which, I hope, cannot be excelled by any who may be our successors. (Hear, hear.) I sincerely trust that this, one of the highest duties devolving upon the Government of this country, and the preservation of harmony with the imperial authorities, will be kept steadily in view, and that all other British Colonies, in whatever quarter of the globe situated, will unite with us in pursuing a policy which will be for the benefit and the glory of the whole. (Cheers.) The patriotism of the British people and Government will always be with us, and we in turn hope always to reside under the shadow of that grand old flag—at once the symbol of power and civilization. Rest assured, sir, all that can be done by the Imperial Government for the advancement of the Colonies, will be done. Of course we have our own duties to perform, and our own share of responsibility to bear. The British colonies are rapidly approaching in population the number of the Mother Country, entirely exclusive of English speaking residents in India, and the time will probably soon come when they will be the more powerful. It is to be hoped they will always be found ready to do all in their power for the promotion of the interests of the great nation from which they sprung and to which they owe allegiance. I can scarcely forbear giving utterance to those sentiments because I know they are the expression of the aspirations which animate the great body—might I not say the whole?—of the Canadian people. (Cheers.) They will find—indeed have found—a ready response in this audience, and in my heart of hearts, I believe that their cultivation would lead to national consolidation, national power, and national wealth; that while benefiting ourselves, we should benefit our fellow creatures on other parts of the earth's surface. I had the pleasure of visiting my native country during the year, and of conversing personally with Her Majesty the Queen, and I can assure you it was with a feeling of reverence I enjoyed that high privilege, for of all the Monarchs who have ever reigned, either over this or any other people, none has better deserved that loyalty and love so heartily manifested by all her subjects to our good Queen Victoria. (Cheers.) I am sure we all earnestly wish that she may long be spared to exert her beneficent influence and the wise supervision she has always exercised over her vast empire. (Loud cheers.) I am much obliged, Mr. President, for your kindness in drinking to Her Majesty's Ministers, and I hope they will always be worthy of the trust reposed in them. (Loud and prolonged cheering.) The CHAIRMAN next proposed the "Army and Navy and Canadian Volunteers."

Major-General SMYTH responded. He said:—

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen. I thank you heartily for associating me with the toast which you have been kind enough to drink. It has been my pleasing duty to respond for the Army and Navy some scores of times in various portions of the three other quarters of the globe, though I believe this is the first time I have had the honour to do so in this the fourth though one of the