

either have had no being at all, or would have been utterly insignificant—who have grown out of the corruption and misgovernment which their counsels have generated—to whom they are the breath of life, who will grow with their growth and strengthen with their strength, or rather, if we may hope better things, are destined speedily to share their decline and downfall.

Such are the men, of whom Mr. Hagerman serves as a goodly specimen. "*Ex uno disce omnes.*" In a moment of outrageous passion, he has unveiled the naked deformity of that party selfishness, of that withering spirit of religious intolerance and exclusiveness, which must long ere now, in British North America, have "descended to the grave of all the Capulets," had it not found a fit resting place, like the exorcised demon in the Gospel, in such bosoms as those of the learned Solicitor and his fraternity—had it not been for the elective affinity or attraction, to adopt a chemical figure, which such antiquated anilities have for minds, constituted like Hagerman's. Such men have no other use in nature, unless it be to serve as land-marks to enable us to determine the rate of that progressive moment by which all the rest of the world is carried onward, in the course of Divine Providence, towards the goal of perfection.

We will not dissemble our conviction, however perilous it may be to proclaim it, that this spirit, that these principles are common to Hagerman, with the great majority of official and influential men connected with the Executive in both Provinces. Others may act with more reserve and self-command, may succeed better in veiling their real sentiments and designs, but they have all a common cause, a common interest, a common ambition; and no one who is a discernor of the spirits of men, or who has paid any attention to their sayings and doings in time past, and even at a very recent date, can entertain a shadow of doubt that they are all baptized into one faith, into one feeling; and when time and circumstances serve, will be found apt and eager—will be found every man of them—nothing loth to go all lengths with Mr. Hagerman, allowing him, at the peril of his proper neck, to save their putting their own in jeopardy, amidst the rocks and precipices of their Alpine ascent. Cursed with moral paralysis, a dead palsy of selfishness, such men will not—cannot have sympathy with any liberal, enlightened or generous policy—they have no compunctious visitings, no remorseful shrinkings; but will unhesitatingly sacrifice the greatest and most precious interests of their country and of mankind, for the least personal or party advantage. Their only balance for weighing all measures, is that of party and self interest. Such men are the rottenness in the bones, the worm in the bud, the corruption in the very heart's core, of the Colonial Governments. And if such men shall continue to be the chosen ministers and confidants in whom our rulers take delight—if they are suffered much longer to hold their places, and to retain their undue influence and ascendancy at head-quarters—if they are suffered much longer, either through the tameness of the people or the connivance of

*See Note C.