

the Canadian citizen who does not put her interests before those of any other nation or power whatever is no Canadian at all.

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In the same way the critic is unfair to the poet's conception of liberty. Mr. Watts must surely have read little of Russian history, or he would know that a more brutal despotism has not existed than the autocracy of the czars. And yet, in all the poet's denunciation of this tyranny, he cannot find a thought on Freedom which is not a true one. He says that Cameron has "robbed liberty of its old chivalric value." Will he then tell us where, in the whole range of literature, he can find better definitions of it than these :

"Love is Freedom's strength,
And Peace her chief foundation stone."

"I am not of those fierce, wild wills,
Albeit from loins of warlike line,
To wreck laws human and divine
Alike, that on a million ills
I might erect one sacred shrine
To Freedom."

"It is in the extreme begins
And ends all danger."

"Ye need not fear the invader's arm :
His strength is but a boast :
But fear what most can work you harm,
Aye, fear *yourselves* the most."

"He who fain would rule a land
Must rule by *love*, or not at all."

"Be thou an Emperor, Sultan or Czar,
Priest or Patriarch, Queen or King,
Thou hast no right to the judgment ear--
Man is the noblest created thing."

"Each has a right each is bound to revere--
The right to be free, to be true ;
The right to be true, to be free ;
So whatever, my lord, is a right for you,
The same is a right to me."

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If Mr. Watts means to say that these sentiments deprive Freedom of her old chivalric value, we fancy that most men will be inclined to ask him what he understands by the words. Here is a poet who tells France that she lost the true idea of Freedom when she gave herself up to *license* ; that Freedom means love and peace, not murder and anarchy. He tells the Czar that the only true kingship is that which is based upon the love of his people. He tells humanity that Freedom consists in the right to be true to the highest instincts of our nature, and that no sovereign, temporal or spiritual, possesses any right which interferes with the exercise of freedom and truth on the part of his people ; that every man has a right which every other man is bound to reverence.

And Mr. Watts says that in giving utterance to these sentiments the poet "destroys the old chivalric idea of Freedom." If, as the critic says, the belief in such conceptions makes men intellectual slaves, we venture to ask what sentiments will make them intellectual freemen ?

If Mr. Watts will develop somewhat out of his Canadian narrowness—and we have no doubt that he will—we shall hear of him before very long in Canadian letters.

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At last the oracle has spoken. Vice-Chancellor Mulock, at the closing exercises of University College, undertook to answer the questions which the country has been asking on the subject of matriculation standards for the past few years. We congratulate the University that she did at last succeed in "screwing up her courage to the sticking point"—we wish that we could add also, on the success of her reply. But a due regard for truth compels us to draw the line at that. The "reply" was quite unique in its tone and character. It is an example of the old legal saw, "When you have no case, abuse the opposing counsel." In this one particular we believe it to be a success. The editorial of the *World* on the subject is modelled on the Vice-Chancellor's effort, and, like all imitations, contains an exaggeration of the faults, with a lamentable lack of the virtues, of the original. Surely neither the University authorities nor the press of Toronto needs to be told that to shower coarse abuse upon a gentleman of Dr. Grant's character and standing will only do their cause harm. We refrain from making any reply to the statements of Mr. Mulock, because we are anxious to give the Principal a fair field. Without any great desire for a place among the prophets, we venture to predict that when Dr. Grant finishes with Mr. Mulock the latter's feelings will find complete and adequate expression in the complaint of our old friend Aguecheek :

"An I had known he was so cunning of fence"—
The Vice-Chancellor can supply the rest

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We beg to remind the *Canada Presbyterian* that, intentionally or unintentionally, it has treated us very shabbily this year. We did not receive a copy of this paper until after Christmas, and as soon as we received it we gave it an excellent notice. It has seen fit to send us just two copies from that day to this. We cannot believe that this was done otherwise than by accident, but we hope that the age of accidents is past.

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We see by the press that Dr. Grant has just been elected Moderator of the General Assembly. The Assembly honored itself in honoring the Principal, and the only regret that we have at his appointment is that it may prevent his voice being heard on the subject of Jesuitism, tithing in Ontario, the teaching of French in our Ontario schools, and kindred subjects.