

Protestant Bishops of Huron and Toronto seems to be the antagonism of truth and evangelical zeal with what is unscriptural and fossilized; and our approbation is reserved for the combatant who awards the palm to an earnest Protestant Christianity. We have sympathized with the effectual yearnings and efforts of the United Presbyterian and Free Churches for union, and are happy to learn that an affinity with the respected Kirk is not unthought of; and we should rejoice to behold the Presbyterianism of the Canadas one in its creed, its ministry, its church order, and in its joyous diffusion of the benefits of the Gospel.

The *Educational* institutions of the Country inspire hope, so long as they are christian and anti-sectarian. The Papal seminaries are traitorous to Bible and British learning. The friends of Victoria College have more reason than ever to value it. The Toronto University, though legally provincial, is a dishonest and disrespectful monopoly; and it was not until the Wesleyans became pioneers in literary and financial justice, and attacked the wrong with Conference and Connexional determination, that the public woke up to the importance of abolishing the evil, and conserving the good, in that Institution; and when this reform shall have been accomplished, to the Wesleyan Conference, Victoria College, and their noble supporters, the thanks of Canada's Churches and people will be due. The *Press* of Canada, when shorn of its rancorous personalities, and partizanship, will merit the eulogies of moderate men, for its intelligence, good will, vigour and usefulness. Various scientific and literary, civil, commercial, and benevolent societies are of considerable advantage to all classes; but the most extensive and serviceable of all is, the Normal, Grammar, and Common School system, which the mind of Dr. Egerton

Ryerson has given to his British country and to posterity.

The *Social* aspect of the Country is favourable, notwithstanding the prolixity of unmanly political antagonism. The harmony of families, and general order, industry, sobriety, and respect for the Sabbath, Sabbath Schools, and its Religious Services, in Protestant settlements, are indicative of widespread religious principle. The loss of life this year on the lakes, the railroads and by other casualties, has made sadness in not a few households, and Providence admonitory to survivors. Of *Commerce*, it may be succinctly stated, that it is improving, as imports and exports are increasing. The damaging influence of two scanty harvests, and the painfully-known monetary crisis, have not spent all their consequences; but the last harvest, and other blessings, which were acknowledged on the day of Public Thanksgiving, have re-inspired assurance. The visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, apart from some illiberal and avoidable concomitants, has tended to augment our cordial affection for the British Royal Family, and admiration of British Institutions; and there may, under the benediction of the Almighty, be anticipated for Canada a distinguished future.

That future is hidden from the present; Eighteen Hundred and Sixty One has arrived with its Gospel, its admonitions, its institutions, its liberties, its joys, and its greetings; the veil is being lifted from the meaning of Inspired Prophecies, the radiant destiny of Canada is not a perplexing problem; the Bible is for light, the Cross of Christ for hope, and God's throne for help; and the generous question which a good man will ask is, How best can I promote the religion, elevation, and happiness of Canada and the world."

January 1st, 1861.