

"HOMAGE TO THE ILLUSTRIOUS DEAD.—This day, ninety-nine years ago, was fought on the Plains of Abraham, that battle which caused Canada to pass from the domination of France to the rule of Great Britain. Will it be thought premature if we suggest now, that so great an event is all-worthy of a public CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION, if only to do honor to the memory of the two heroic paladins, sons of contending nations, whose precious life-blood was shed on the ever-memorable thirteenth day of September, 1759?"

The idea was favourably, in a few instances warmly, taken up by several members of the British Canadian press; and it had a yet heartier response from sundry American journalists, those of Portland (Maine) especially, one of the latter claiming, that it should be made an "International Celebration." The proposal, however, met with a very different reception from the Gallo-Canadian press, the writers in which denounced, mocked, or carped at it, in the most bitter, nay even insulting terms. Never did a kindly meant and conciliatorily expressed "notion" meet more unworthy treatment than mine, from all my French confrères of Lower Canada. I was a little vexed at this, I must own, and not a little surprised; for I had lived long in the mother country of these gentlemen, and where, such is my intimate knowledge of the character of the French people, a "demonstration" like that I proposed would have met general approval, perhaps even been hailed with enthusiasm. Thus, upon occasion of the disinterment, no further back than the year 1854, of the remains of those killed in that bootless fight which French Canadians call the "second battle, (and victory over the British!) of the Plains of Abraham," one of the leading and best journals of France, or of any other country, gave unqualified praise to that celebration, meant as it supposed (mistakingly it seems, however,) to do *equal* honor to the brave, fortunate and unfortunate, for the very deeds which I, in my simplicity, wished only *further* to do due reverence to; yet, for the time, I became the "best abused" editor in Canada, by all the journalists, whether ministerial or opposition, of the French-Canadian press.*

* See Supplement, B.