

is one of a very peculiar character. I know no example of it in ancient or modern history. Its flag floats over many waters; it has provinces in every zone; they are inhabited by persons of different religions, different races, different laws, manners, and customs. Some of these are bound to us by the ties of liberty, fully conscious that without the protection of the British flag they have no security for public freedom and self-government; other are bound to us by flesh and blood, and by material as well as moral considerations. There are millions who are bound to us by our military sway, and they bow to that sway because they know they are indebted to it for order and justice. All these communities agree in recognizing the commanding spirit of these Islands that have formed and fashioned in such a manner so great a portion of the globe. That empire is no mean heritage; but it is not a heritage that can only be enjoyed; it must be maintained, and it can only be maintained by the same qualities that created it—by courage, by discipline, by patience, by determination and by a reverence for public law, and respect for national rights."



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WE find from a letter recently received from London, England, that Mr. J. W. L. Forster, one of Canada's many talented artists, has been to the island of Guernsey in search of historical relics. The letter goes on to quote from an article in the Guernsey Star which says:—"A Canadian artist from Toronto, Mr. J. W. L. Forster, held in high repute in that city, has recently visited and will shortly return to this island for the express purpose of carrying back to Canada a reliable portrait of Sir Isaac Brock. He has reproduced from the original small painting of General Brock, now in the possession of Mr. John Lavery Carey, a most pleasing and faithful life-sized oil painting of the General in uniform, the coat being depicted from that actually worn by him on the fatal day in 1812 at the battle of Queenston Heights, and kindly lent the artist by the owners, the Misses F. B. Tupper of Candie. The memory of Sir Isaac Brock, who by common consent of the Canadian public was given the title of "The Hero of Upper Canada," is justly revered throughout the length and breadth of the Dominion, for as Mr. D. B. Read, Q.C., in his 'Life and Times of Sir Isaac Brock' remarks, 'It was his genius which laid out the plan for opposing the large (American) force employed in the hopeless task of conquering Canada,' and 'how well he performed the duty entrusted to him is manifest from the successful result of the conflict.'"

Lovers of the beautiful may shortly look for some pretty things from the brush of another of our Canadian artists—Mr. Mower Martin who has been enjoying the beauties of Springfield-on-the-Credit. Those who have never visited that charming and ideal spot will be able to see at least one or more of its lovely nooks when Mr. Martin gives to the world—on canvas—his recollections of some of Canada's most delightful bits of scenery.

Miss Cornelia Sage, of Buffalo, a young

artist of whom the world beyond her own city has not yet heard very much, but who is destined to make her name known among the rising artists of the day, has been doing some splendid work in oils recently. She is at present studying under Mr. Wyly Grier, who is summering at Niagara-on-the-Lake.

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A veteran artist was asked one day by an enthusiastic young student what he should do in order to get on quickly, complaining that although going in for regular training he did not make the progress he desired. He was ready and willing to undertake anything and everything, however difficult. "Young man," replied the mentor, "there is no royal road to success, and one piece of advice I will give you: do not confine yourself to your stereotyped work at the Art School. Draw whatever you see around you, everywhere and always. At the end of six months compare the work just finished with that done in the first month. If you have worked conscientiously during that time you will no longer complain that you do not get on, for a proof to the contrary will lie before you."

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In sketching from nature don't put in everything you can see because it is there. An authority tells us that "selection is as much a part of the artist's work as the painting."

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### The State Dinner Set.

AMONG the recent exhibitions of art in Toronto, nothing has held its own more worthily than the State Dinner Set of over a hundred pieces, which has been completed in commemoration of the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of Canada, also of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee. It illustrates the places of historic interest, and represents the various fruits, flowers, game and fish of the Dominion.

It is all of Doulton china, imported specially by the Pantechnethca and the Woman's Art Association of Canada, and decorated by the following members:—Miss A. Egan, of Halifax; Miss A. L. Kelley, of Yarmouth; Miss Alice M. Judd, of Hamilton; Miss Clara E. Galbraith, of Hamilton; Miss Phoebe Watson, of Galt; Miss M. McClung, of St. Catharines; Miss Elizabeth Whitney, of Montreal; and the following Toronto members—Miss M. Irvine, Miss Louise Couen, Miss L. O. Adams, Miss H. M. Proctor, Miss J. A. Harrison, Miss M. Roberts, Miss J. Bertram, Miss M. Logan.

With the exception, perhaps, of one or two, the pieces are all beautifully done, and if the Dominion Government purchases it, which the Association hopes it will do, Canada will have a monster piece of work from its women artists of which it may be proud. Some of the historic scenes represented are Fort Henry, Kingston; Nanaimo, B.C.; Site of the 1st Port Royal; Old Fort, near Annapolis Royal, N.S.; Fort Frederick, Kingston; Halifax from York Redoubt; Mission Church, St. Anne's; Martello Tower, on the Plains of Abraham; Cabot's Head; Remains of French Fortifications, Luisburg; Fort Mississauga at Niagara-on-the-Lake, as it was in 1767; an old church at Tadousac; Brock's Monument; Old St. Mark's Church, Niagara-on-the-Lake; Prescott Gate, Quebec; Old St. Louis Gate, Quebec; Old Prescott Gate, Quebec; Old Fort Chambly, Quebec, (which at a glance closely resembles Fort Niagara, N.Y., only without the high stone wall, and flying the Union Jack instead of the Stars and Stripes). Encampment of the U. E. Loyalists at Johnstown 1784; Old St. John's

Gate, Quebec; The Three Rivers, 1836; The old Mohawk church at Brantford, and the Citadel of Kingston, 1838.

The cups and saucers are exquisitely done in lovely Canadian flowers, and the fish, game and dessert plates have suitable designs most artistically worked out. Added to its value as a work of art, it holds the charm of immortalizing—in so far as such a breakable thing as china can immortalize—the historic places and the chief beauties of our glorious country.

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### The Epworth League.

ONE of the largest and most successful gatherings ever held in Toronto was the Third International Convention of the Epworth League, which began on Thursday, the 15th inst., and closed on Sunday the 18th. From everywhere across the line they came, from West and East and South, and Toronto gave them a reception which left in their minds no doubt that they were welcome indeed in the Queen City of Canada. Over twenty thousand strangers were present during the week, and from private houses and shops, from public buildings, and over the streets floated the crossed flags of the two nations, and the word "Welcome" in the colors of the League—scarlet and white. Verily it was an invasion such as Toronto has not seen for many years, but it was an invasion that brought with it an influence which has done much to link closer together the two nations, divided only by such a narrow line. It brought what it took away and yet left behind—a broader and kindlier feeling, a realization that in the higher and better object of their coming all question of race and nationality was buried, and the thousands were as one in their great aim. Methodism has indeed made wonderful strides in the past few years, and the people so ready to say that materialism is over-riding religion need only the evidences of last week's convention to prove the fallacy of the thought.

In speaking of the Convention, Professor Goldwin Smith calls attention to the fact that the majority of those who came were women. All credit to them that it was so! From the day when they were last at the Cross and first at the Tomb the women of the world have been the pillars of their religion. They mainly fill the churches; with their cheerful and zealous efforts they keep alive the societies and organizations to which they belong; and wherever there is work to be done in the parish they generally far out-number the men.

In speaking further of the League, Professor Goldwin Smith says: "The great Massey Hall and the principal Methodist churches were filled again and again to overflowing . . . and over the vast meetings of the league floated in amity the two flags which it is the delight of Jingoism in its crazy vanity on both sides of the line to tear down.

"In the meeting of the Epworth League the Methodist Church once more showed its force and the strong hold which it has upon the attachment of large classes. Methodism had the great advantage of owing its birth, not like other Protestant churches, to doctrinal controversy, but to a revival of religious feeling and Christian morality in antagonism to the irreligion, worldliness and sensuality of the nineteenth century. This has made its preaching less dogmatic, less political, more truly evangelical. Rarely, it is believed, do we find a Methodist minister engaged in dogmatic controversy or hear a controversial sermon from a Methodist pulpit. Wesley was a great ecclesiastical statesman, and if he was tenacious of power, his ascendancy was the life of his infant church."