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Non deficit alter.

VIRGIL.

Another and another still succeeds. SHAKESPEARE.

During the temporary suspension which the Free Press has experienced, having a little more leisure than usually falls to my lot, I indulged in an afternoon's nap, in the course of which a dream of no ordinary kind presented itself to my imagination. I had been reading the account of the opening of our provincial parliament at Quebec, and had just finished the speech of his Excellency on the occasion, when the paper dropped from my hand.

I soon seemed to be transported to the scene of that impressive ceremony, and found myself in the Legislative Council-chamber. The council, and the members of the lower house, were all assembled, but the throne was vacant, and a buzz was heard amongst the crowd, as if they were in expectation of the arrival of some great personage. Suddenly the doors opened, and every whisper subsided into the most profound silence, when a majestic female figure, followed by several attendants of the same sex, entered, and proceeded to the throne, which she ascended, and prepared to address the assembly.

She appeared to be about thirty years of age, and in the full bloom of womanhood and beauty; her "bright black sparkling eye" and tresses of the darkest raven's hue, bespoke her of Canadian birth. Her brow was crowned with a wreath of lilies, intermingled with roses, shamrocks, and thistles, and she wore upon her breast a brilliant diamond cross. A cerulean scarf gracefully thrown over her white and finely moulded shoulders, inscribed with golden characters LOWER CANADA, proclaimed her the guardian genius of that province. She was led to the throne by her nearest and dearest sister, who displayed a sash inscribed UPPER CANADA; and was followed by the attendant ladies, whose characteristic devices denoted they came as representatives from NOVA SCOTIA, NEW-BRUNSWICK, NEWFOUNDLAND, and PRINCE EDWARDS ISLAND, to do honour to their sister, their neighbour, and their friend.

Her Excellency then opened the third session of our eleventh provincial parliament, and was pleased to deliver the following speech.