

might have been foreseen, that the two existing parties united against him. He and his associates were denounced "as Annexationists, Independents, and Know-nothings," and referred to by the *Mail* as "beardless boys," by the *Globe* as "sucking politicians," and by the *Leader* as "sucking traitors." The first general election (1874) sufficed to demonstrate the futility of the attempt to oust the traditional parties; and "Canada First" fell, "the cultivation of a national sentiment" was discredited, and its realization indefinitely postponed.

It is possible that Canadian sentiment is not yet ready to crystallize. That it has found lodgment in the hearts of a very much larger number of our people than at any previous period of our history is plainly evidenced by the establishment of so many of these Canadian Clubs, by their enormous membership, by the largeness of the attendance at their meetings, and by the enthusiastic eagerness which they display for information and enlightenment upon all points connected with their country. These clubs must be taken as an indication of the awakening of that instinct of unity and nationality which manifests itself in the history of all nations.

The question, however, is still unanswered, Why is there so little national sentiment in Canada? Making all allowances for the hindrances already referred to, students of the rise and development of nationalism, commencing slowly as the Roman grip loosened and culminating in the last century with the German and Italian unions, must give a better answer to the question. The reasons thus far mentioned are inadequate.

I asked a few minutes ago, Why did Nova Scotia vote against Canadian federation? The answer to the question will help us to solve the problem we have under discussion.

What gave rise to the formation of other federations and confederations? What was the object of the Achean League, the Smalkaldic League, the Hanseatic League, the Germanic Confederation, the German Empire, the Kingdom of Italy, and so on? Why do wolves associate, and primitive men band themselves together? Primarily and principally, no doubt, for mutual protection. Individuals, indeed, may