

melancholy bereavement and a profound sympathy in the loss which she has sustained, in the decease of one of her most distinguished citizens.

I should hesitate to mingle the accents of grief, with the sounds of hilarity; or call upon you in the midst of your festivity to shed a tear for departed worth, did I not know that both are equally characteristic of England, with whom the enjoyment of rational mirth, is not inconsistent with the sensibility which prompts us "to weep with those who weep."

We have just received the melancholy tidings of the decease of Horatio Gates of Montreal, well known to many in this company, who like myself have enjoyed his friendship, and had frequent occasions to bear testimony to his private worth and public services.

Mr. Gates was a native of the United States, born in the state of Massachusetts; he removed in early life to Montreal, where he soon became distinguished as an eminent and prosperous merchant and a liberal and public-spirited citizen. He was at different times appointed to offices of high trust and responsibility, and at the time of his death, was a member of the Executive Council of the Province. His zeal, activity, and enterprise rendering him a prominent man in the party which advocated, and promoted all measures of public improvement, it will not be considered invidious, to place him in the first rank among the benefactors of his adopted country, and the deep expressions of regret for his loss, and of respect for his memory evinced by his fellow citizens, prove their acknowledgment of his claims to that distinction.

As an American he never ceased to entertain an affection for his native land, and his countrymen derived important advantages from the facilities which his high mercantile station afforded them in their intercourse with Canada, and will long remember with gratitude his liberality and hospitality.

Trusting that this very imperfect tribute to the memory of a lamented friend may be kindly received as a substitute for the remarks which I had intended to make, I beg leave to propose the following toast:—