

As Secretary he had the best possible opportunity of making himself thoroughly acquainted with public affairs, and the principal public men in Lower Canada. The reader will judge of his ability as a diplomat by his correspondence. But Mr. Ryland, it truly must be said, was in his sympathies, and antipathies, prepossessions, and prejudices (for who is free of such?) an Englishman to the core, and like his friend and chief Sir J. H. Craig but little apt to conciliate or soothe the prejudices of a people foreign in language, religion, laws, usages and customs to those of his own country, to which they were but recently annexed by conquest and treaty. Indeed, generally speaking, it may be said that the prejudices of Englishmen, if not innate, are at least stubborn and characteristic, certainly not of a nature readily to humour or indulge those of their co-subjects of the other race, still less to give way to them. His convictions in politics, however, were conscientious, and his integrity unimpeachable. The darling project of his heart, was to anglify, but by means compulsory and distasteful to them, the French Canadian people, who, having no wish to be anglified by any means, would not be so "by compulsion." As a servant of the Crown he pursued ardently and indeed ultra zealously, what he believed to be, in the phraseology of the times when he first entered upon public life, the interests of his "King and Country." But in justice to his memory it should be also stated that although he considered the people of Lower Canada insufficiently prepared for free institutions, or self-government, yet in the case of Juge Foucher, when the Crown conceded to the Assembly its right of impeachment, he manfully, at the risk of losing his official appointment, denounced in his place in the Legislative Council the crooked policy of the government in withholding from the assembly the despatch conveying the Prince Regent's decision on this head. Mr.