

cost from £20 to £60. The price of one of them would buy a good farm in those days.— And the state of society, both in its moral and religious aspects, has undergone as marvellous a change as that of the physical features of the country.

The first inhabitants have passed away, and with them has also passed away much of the sterling honesty, simple straightforwardness, hospitality, and intense devotedness to religious matters. At one time I knew almost all the people, old and young, in the County of Pictou; I am now a stranger to many in my own immediate neighborhood.

In the month of July last I and Norman drove out on the Sabbath to the "Sacrament," dispensed on that day at McLennan's Mountain. It was a beautiful day, the great sun shining in all its glory, while its heat was in no way oppressive. We had abundance of time on our hands; and we drove, not the shortest road, but the long way by the "Marsh" and over the east end of the Mountains—a road I have travelled on hundreds of times "in life's morning march"—the road that "Tailor McDonald" and the "Marsh" people used to take in going to Church, long, long ago. I expected to have met with some of the faces well known to me in the "olden times." No, not one! Those were all dead. Even the old trees were all gone. The people that now met me were the grandchildren of those who went this way to Church forty years ago. I asked a young man who met me, "Do you know me?" The answer was "No." I told my name. "Oh," says the young man, "I think when a child I heard my father talking about you." His late father was one of my scholars when I taught school at McLennan's Mountain. In such circumstances, how forcibly does the exclamation of the Psalmist, "Wherefore hast thou made all men in vain?" come home to our feelings! or the profound saying of Job, "I would not live away." Our Bibles explain the great mystery of man's childhood, manhood, decay and death. The present life is but the initiatory part of our existence. There is another and a better life coming. Oh, that we were wise, and would secure to ourselves a sure entrance into it, by laying hold, through faith, love, and obedience, on the all-sufficient grace and truth of JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD!

About that time the younger Pitt was Prime Minister of Great Britain, and the Opposition was led by the celebrated Charles James Fox. There were Giants in the land in those days; as Pitt, Fox, Burke, Sheridan, Henry Erskine, and others. It is doubtful whether English history can show such a galaxy of great men

before or after. Party spirit ran high. George the Third was becoming an old man, and he heartily hated the Whigs. The Prince of Wales—(afterwards George the Fourth)—led a loose life and gave all his influence to the Whigs, both in private and in public. The nation was engaged in a bloody and expensive war, which lasted for a period of twenty-one years. This great war commenced in the year I was born (1794), and lasted with various phases until the great battle of Waterloo in 1815. The country was much divided in opinion with respect to the wisdom of continuing the war. Latterly, however, when the victories of Wellington, following one another in rapid succession, resounded through the land, the war became mightily popular with the bulk of the people; and consequently the Opposition to the Government had to take up some other popular cry, such as "Reform in Parliament," and "Catholic Emancipation." King George the Third was a good man, and his moral influence was great; but his brain gave way about that time, and he became insane.

The Opposition strove to have the Prince of Wales appointed Regent, but Pitt successfully resisted the attempt, and kept the appointment back for three years; that is, until his physicians declared, in their report to the Government, "that the old King's disease was past all reasonable hope of recovery." Then the Prince of Wales became "Prince Regent," and continued so until the death of his father, on which event he became "King George the Fourth." It was during this Regency that Great Britain attained to the highest point of influence with other nations that she had ever attained. Great Britain was recognized by all to be the foremost power in the world. Her long conflict with the first Napoleon was often single-handed, and that, too, when at times the other nations of Europe were all banded against her. Her fleet swept the seas under Nelson, and cleared it of all enemies, and her land forces under Wellington were victorious in every field they fought. It is doubtful indeed whether Great Britain holds as high a position comparatively to-day (1868) as she deservedly did in 1815. Her policy has been of late years not to interfere much in European politics. Secured by her insular position from foreign invasion, she pays all attention to her Colonial possessions, especially in India, and the only Power from which she anticipates any trouble in that quarter is Russia. It was her jealousy of Russia that led to the Crimean war,—a war which gained her little renown, although her soldiers fought with their ancient power and might, at Alma, Balaclava and Inkermann. Yet