

an object of congratulation, the principle upon which it is based may, and upon that occasion did, voice the noblest and purest sentiments of humanity. As the Rochester *Herald* said not long ago, so Canadians can very well repeat when reviving such historic memories: "We have no sympathy with that sublimated sentiment which derides patriotism as clannish and provincial, and aims to throw down the walls of home and native and adopted land. We believe that men are better for having a country, a flag, and an allegiance for which they are willing to do and dare and die." So should it be with our Canadian boys.

Of course, this sentiment need not be expressed or inculcated in such words as these. It would not be wise, perhaps, nor would the teacher have time. But certainly the teaching of history can and should breathe such a spirit. Inference, conclusions, incidental references, historical allusions, praises given to patriots and patriotic actions, comparisons casually and briefly instituted; in a hundred ways the point can be driven home and the lesson taught. Canadian history involves upon its every page some instructive reference to national development. In using the word "national," no distinction need be made between Canada and Britain. Our people, by their flag and institutions, are British now, and no reason exists why we should not expand into a powerful British nation upon Canadian soil. Loyalty is indeed one of the great principles taught by our Canadian annals. As William Kirby says in his splendid poem, "The U. E. Loyalists":—

The world goes rushing by  
The ancient landmarks of a nobler time,  
When men bore deep the imprint of the law  
Of duty, truth and loyalty unstained,  
Amid the quaking of a continent.  
Torn by the passions of an evil time,  
They counted neither cost nor danger, spurned  
Defections, treasons, spoils; but feared God,  
Nor shamed of their allegiance to the king.

It may be that the lamp of patriotism burned brighter in the days of old, but I doubt it. Chivalry in the Old Land shed a ray of beautiful light upon periods otherwise dark. Loyalty in the New World illumined a glorious page in our history, but were this people tried again, and especially if the lessons of the past be properly inculcated in the minds of the scholars of the present, no fear need be felt of the result.

But Confederation united our people. Their minds expanded and a new nation was born upon the banks of the St. Lawrence. The beautiful literature of Quebec developed; the literary mind of Upper Canada slowly grew into harmony with the greatness of our rising destiny, whilst the Maritime Provinces, which could then boast a Sam Slick, can to-day produce the splendid poems of a Charles G. D. Roberts. Manitoba has more than golden fields of grain, and can boast the patriotic and stirring dramatic work of a Charles Mair. The combination of races has made the competition keener, and will in the long run render our civilization more important, and produce in any case a literature as unique as that which followed the fusion of races in the England of old.

Railway development has done much for us and holds in our history a place second only to Confederation. As Lord Macaulay says: "Every improvement of the means of locomotion benefits mankind, morally and intellectually as well as materially, and not only facilitates the interchange of the various productions of nature and art, but tends to remove natural and provincial antipathies." So it has been with us. The union of our provinces has been cemented, and the sentiment of a nation created by the fusion of our people through railway progress and the development of common interests. While, therefore,