

clusively to themselves, to the condition of their political existence. The main occupation of the inhabitants of North America has hitherto been Agriculture, —to change the forest to the field has been their business. Such a state implies great and evident independence and equality. The condition, feelings, pursuits, of the great mass of the members of each separate community are similar : there is scarce anything in their relative position to give real cause for mutual jealousies and fears. Neither in this state, where each community is fully occupied with its operations, against a common opponent—the primeval forest—would there seem much reason for their falling out with one another. But this first stage in the existence of the Anglo-American population is passing away. Instead of the simplicity of a purely agricultural population, we see, to the south of us, manufacturers, merchants, capitalists, men of wealth, and having the habits and feelings which it produces ; we see, beneath them, numerous classes of operatives, mechanics, labourers, living solely by the labour of their hands, and scarcely hoping to rise above this condition ; we see the different states of the confederacy avowing that they stand opposed to each other as states—that sectional feelings divide them—in short, we see vast rival, opposing, conflicting interests springing up, the strife between which already disturbs, and must soon convulse the union. The days which we see advancing upon others, we may assure ourselves must come to us. The population of Upper Canada must, at no distant period, form a great people. The position of our territory, in the centre of the fresh water seas of the continent, its fertility, its salubrity, assure us of this. But our greatness will not be—greatness never was—without its price.—

Here too, as in all communities that have hitherto existed, there will be jealousies and contentions between opposing clans, contests with ambitious neighbours. If already, when our population is scattered, when political measures do not sensibly affect individual interests, the demon of political discord possesses, disturbs, shakes our frame, what is to be expected when the strife of parties will have added to it, all the energy which real, tangible and important individual interests excite—all the vehemence enkindled by crowded multitudes, when each man's passions inflame, and are in turn inflamed by contact. Assuredly there must be a strife—the principles of good and evil, that mingle in man's imperfect nature must here too meet and contend for victory. We would not be prophets of evil ; but we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that a contest awaits us, nor to the truth, that to give the mastery to the side of right feelings and principles, they will have to call into action every power that ought to be ranged with them. Of these—of opponents of injustice wherever it may appear—of champions of the right whatever it may be—science and literature, stand in the foremost rank ; the one infusing into the spirit of the age, a love of universal truth, the other of universal peace ; and uniting to lift the soul over the paltry personal interests and passions of the moment, to consider the bearing of political questions on the whole course of affairs, and their influence on the general well-being of the state.

But though we think it all important that learning and philosophy should find a real home on this continent, and spread their vivifying and health-giving influences over the whole land, and though we trust that they will do so, we confess that it is rather from our confidence in