

has endless energy for business; great earnestness, extensive political information, and indomitable perseverance. These are qualities which, with his youth and constitution, must always make him a power in our politics. But before he can ever form a Cabinet which could be re-elected, he must give convincing proofs of a different spirit, from the spirit of the *Globe* during the late election. That spirit never can rule in Canada, and you need not, my friends, have the least apprehension of a Ministry being formed in such an aggressive spirit. To give Mr. Brown his due, we must remember how ferociously he was assailed by organs speaking in your name. To give him his due, we must treat him, like all other public men in the Province, impartially and according to his actions. This is the rule by which I have been governed, and if, without compromise, I could see Mr. Brown back on the old Baldwin platform, I confess, for your sakes, I would be glad of it.

It seems to me, it is much better have such a man for a friend, if it can be done, without violation of principle, than for a foe, by a foolish indulgence in wild denunciations of "the Clear Grits." If however, that cannot be—if Mr Brown should unfortunately prefer to rally and rely on the antipathies of religion and race, rather than on reason, justice, and common sense, it places me and places you in a still better position than we held before, if we show our willingness to welcome any act of liberality, from Mr. Brown, just as if it come from any other man or party; no more and no less.

To conclude: our Politics at present resemble a good deal, what Surgeons call, "a compound fracture." The bones of a great state were set in 1841, but are not yet well knit. Some soreness and swelling remain, and the most patriotic vigilance must be exercised, to prevent mortification setting in. I do not believe a dissolution of the Union to be the real remedy. And I do not believe that, under our system, and on the American Continent, numbers can be steadily ignored, as the prime basis of representation. A revision of our whole constitutional system cannot be far off, and while I would resist, and have already voted against an unequal representation under the present Union act, I am quite ready to admit, that in any new arrangement, the representation in the popular branch at all events, must be proportioned to population. Abundant constitutional safeguards for the rights of Lower Canada—securing if need be under a Federal pack the autonomy of Lower Canada can be found; and my humble adhesion to any such arrangement, would mainly depend on the fact of its being sanctioned by the majority of the people of Lower Canada. This change, I believe must come, and I do not anticipate from it, those frightful consequences which fill the imagination of certain political prophets. I would rather expect, that by rendering the French and Irish more necessary to each other, and the British more just to both, it would, on the contrary, tend to hasten the advent of a genuine Canadian Nationality, co-extensive with the country, and enduring as its hills.

Towards the construction of such a Nationality, I would fain hope—if I am to act for you, which is for yourselves to say—I may do something. But that I may do it, I must not be prejudged, counteracted, and calumniated, by persons unwarrantably using your name, but really in the pay of one wing of the party at present in power.

I remain my friends,

Your faithful and obedient Servant,

THOMAS D'ARCY MCGEE.

TORONTO, June 12, 1858.

* * * I may here state, that the *Toronto Mirror* of the 7th of May, voluntarily offered the use of its columns "to disseminate my opinions, and give them to the country without change or mutilation," but suppressed without a word of explanation, public or private, a short note which I sent them the following week. Also, that having requested insertion for this address in the *Catholic Citizen*, after its whole pages of attack, I was answered by its editor, under date of June 12th, that his "rule in reference to communications is to publish them or not, according to his views of their fitness." Under these circumstances I have not troubled either of those newspapers, and they, of course, will not give this document "to the country without change or mutilation." I expect greater fairness from the Canadian press generally, to whom copies of this broad sheet have been sent.