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VII. BDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

RECENT LITERARY AND EDUCATIONAL SPEECHES IN ENGLAND AND CANADA.

1. THE RIGHT HON. LORD BROUGHAM, LL.D.

THE PROGRESS OF SOCIAL SCIENCE.

Lord Brougham delivered the inaugural address before the Association for the promotion of Social Science in Glasgow, on the 24th ult. In his introductory remarks, he said :- In the outset of our proceedings we are naturally led to mark the progress of social science in past times, as well as its state at this day. The novelty of the name to designate what was before unknown in its various branches proves how little till of late years men had devoted themselves to these inquiries in the aggregate, although particular subjects might more or less have engaged the attention of different classes without regard to the relation subsisting among them. But, indeed, we cannot go far back in the history of statesmen and lawgivers, and of the community at large, without the conviction that the attention of any class fixed exclusively upon one or other of the branches is only to be observed in the more recent period of our social annals. We shall best ascertain the progress of our science by casting an eye over the history of the parties which have divided both the rulers and the people, and observing what attention was given to it, and how far it entered into their controversies. That men of rare endowment flourished in those times-indeed of the highest qualities ever displayed in public life -is undeniable; and that their talents fitted them for government in an extraordinary degree is as certain as that by their eloquence they were masters of debate. Besides Walpole, there were Cartaret and Pultney, of first rate distinction as orators-nay,

Bolingbroke, according to all tradition the very first of modern times. But their lives were in council devoted to the intrigues of party, in the Senate to party eloquence, in office to preserving all things as they had found them; and when Lord Chatham, somewhat later, was at the head of affairs, either in opposition or in the minority, not only were his whole attacks upon his adversaries confined to purely party grounds, but his own policy shows him so little in advance of his age, that, as regarded France, it was grounded upon the narrow, antiquated notion of natural enmity; and, as regarded America, upon the equally narrow and antiquated notion of natural sovereignty. To work out those great principles—to attack all invasion of the one either in alliances or in war, and of the other in government, was the object of his public life. Yet so powerful is habit, such the force of routine, he seemed wholly unable to comprehend that it is our first duty by all means to cultivate peace with our nearest neighbour, as the first of blessings to both nations, each being able to do the other the most good in amity, the most harm in hostility; but he could only see glory, or even safety, in the precarious superiority grasped by a successful war. In like manner, as often as the idea of American independence crossed his mind, he instantly and utterly rejected it as the destruction of our national existence, instead of wisely perceiving that to become the fast friends of the colonies which we had first planted and long cherished under our protection, would benefit both ourselves and them the more by suffering them in their full growth to be as independent as we had always been. Was Lord Chatham singular in those feelings? Not at all; but he was not at all wiser than others. The American war had raged for years before the word separation crossed the lips of any man in either House of Parliament—the mismanagement of the war and ill-treatment of the colonists being the only topics of attack upon the Government from those whose averred object was to prevent the necessity of separation. But out of this war and this revolution arose fundamental differences of opinion upon the great questions of allegiance, of popular rights, and, generally, of civil liberty-opinions caried still further by the greater Revolution (not unconnected with that event) which convulsed Europe a few years later; and parties became marshalled according to principles thus entertained by many, professed by more; and the end of the century was distinguished, as had been the greater part of the century before, not by the absence of all party and personal combination, but by important principles on matters of Church and State becoming the ground