

shown the same desire for unity? Why did Nova Scotia vote against it?

It cannot be said that nationalism has not stirred the hearts of some of our people. The voice of the Canadian patriot has never been quite silent; but hitherto it has been usually the voice of one crying in the wilderness. Let me remind you of the somewhat notable appearance of The Canada First Party under the leadership of Mr. W. A. Foster, of Toronto. A man of literary and poetic instincts, his imagination was fired by the consummation of the federation of the four provinces in 1867. He realized, as few others did, the grandeur of the country itself, and the magnificence of its future; and he strove to rouse his countrymen to a proper sense of their importance and dignity. After some preliminary review articles, he produced in 1871 the memorable pamphlet entitled "Canada First." It had such effect that in 1873 "The Canadian National Association" was founded, with "the cultivation of a national sentiment" as its object, and 1874 witnessed the institution of "The National Club," which still exists; *The Nation*, a weekly review; and *The Liberal*, a daily newspaper. It had been hoped that Mr. Edward Blake and Mr. Thomas Moss would join in the leadership of the movement, but Mr. Blake took office in 1875 and Mr. Moss retired to the Bench. Canada as a whole was irresponsive, and Mr. Foster reluctantly gave up the task. It was at that time impossible of accomplishment. *The Liberal* lived for about a year, and *The Nation* two years, and then all was quiet again. Mr. Foster himself died in 1888, and as Mr. Goldwin Smith says:

"The idea for the time at least died with him; the movement, if it did not end its march, halted at his grave. It must be owned that even before his death the light of the idea had been growing pale, and the pace of the movement had become slow."

Mr. Foster made the fatal mistake of linking his prime object, "the cultivation of a national sentiment," with the establishment of a new political party. The result was, as