

and in no way dependent on any extraneous or foreign authority. Such a position was indeed a proud one for Canada to occupy, for it undoubtedly placed her foremost in rank and independence of all the branches of our Anglican communion, next after that of our great sister branch in the United States of America. That the Church in Canada is destined, ere long, to play a very prominent part in the great efforts now being made to secure increased unity and uniformity throughout the whole Christian Church, I entertain a very strong conviction, and I am confirmed in this view by the effect already produced in England by the presentation of the address of our Provincial Synod to the Convocations of Canterbury and York, in which address occurs this remarkable suggestion: "Let all the members of our Anglican Communion throughout the world have a share in the deliberations for her welfare, and be permitted to have a representation in one general council of her members gathered from every land." Cheering as the prospects of our own particular branch of the Church undoubtedly are, I am free to admit that the disjointed condition of the other Colonial branches does not present so fair a picture, nor indicate so bright a hope of ultimate success. But when we reflect on the terrible struggles of the American branch of the Church of England during the progress of that gigantic revolution which wrested from Great Britain her old thirteen colonies, and for a considerable time after its consummation,—when we bear in mind that until the year 1784, when Bishop Seabury was consecrated to be their first Bishop, they were wholly without a pastoral head, and were indeed well nigh prostrate and overwhelmed,—and when, from such comparatively recent beginnings, we see a Church of the dimensions and influence of that which is now so firmly established in the United States, we cannot but confidently hope that God, in His all wise Providence, will speedily deliver our Colonial brethren from their present sad and deplorable condition. And, for my own part, I cannot but think that the Church will ere long prove itself entitled to that character of stability so eloquently expressed by the immortal Burke:

"Her fortifications, her walls and her bastions are constructed of other materials than of stubble and of straw. They are built of the strong and staple matter—of the Gospel of liberty. She has securities not shaken in any single battlement, in any single pinnacle."

But, it has been said, that as we are now separated from the controlling power of the Church in England, we have ceased to belong to that Church. This proposition I entirely dissent from. All that has been done is to separate us from the jurisdiction or control of the Crown as the supreme head of the Church of England. Suppose, then, that for any cause a like separation should occur in England itself, would any one seriously contend that the Church was less the Church of England than it was before? Undoubtedly not. Why, then, should only a branch of the same church, with Bishops having regular succession from the Bishops of the Church in England, using the same Liturgy, acknowledging the same ordinances, professing the same faith and doctrine, and maintaining the same discipline, be less an integral portion of the Church of England? For myself, I cannot see in what the distinction claimed for can consist, and I therefore maintain—and I trust shall always have reason to maintain—that we are verily and indeed an integral portion of the dear old Church of England. In bringing these remarks to a close, I cannot better do so than in the eloquent language of one of the ablest of the American Church historians, when alluding to the separation that took place at the time of the revolution:

"No violent disruption of the sacred bond took place. The daughter glided from the mother's side because in the allotment of Providence she had been led to maturity and independence, but the spiritual reunion, the union of faith, of worship, and of discipline was undestroyed; and God grant that it may prove indestructible." [Hear, hear, and cheers.]

—Mr. Justice CARON, one of the Codification Commissioners, having resumed his seat as a judge of the Court of Queen's Bench, Mr. Justice MONDELET has returned to the Bench of the Superior Court at Montreal.