

and scrubby looking, and expressed the belief that they would not be generally introduced among the people. Now, it happened that Mr. Uniacke had married a lady, not very beautiful, but having a good deal of wealth, and Mr. Young, in reply, said that he had selected his cattle like some of his honorable friends selected their wives—not so much for their beauty as for their *Sterling worth*. This pointed retort was very much enjoyed at the time, and has been oftentimes told since.

Mr. George R. Young had once delivered a paper before the old Mechanic's Institute in Halifax, and, after the paper was read, a general discussion followed. Howe was present, and made a rollicking sort of speech, criticizing the paper very freely. Young was rather nettled with Howe's observations, and in reply said, among other things, he did not come to such meetings with a lot of stock jokes bottled up in his pocket. Howe retorted that no one could say whether his friend carried humor bottled up in his pocket, but every one could testify that if such were the case *he never drew the cork*.

Mr. James B. Uniacke died in 1858, and by this time Dr. Charles Tupper—now Sir Charles—was in the House, and had just assumed the position of Provincial Secretary in Johnston's administration, formed in 1857. Tupper had made an attack upon Uniacke just before his death, and when references were made to his death in the House, Howe paid a splendid tribute to his memory, and in the course of his speech referred to Tupper's attack in the scathing terms of which he was such a consummate master. His trenchant style can be judged from the extract which follows:—

"Sir, a more honorable and distinguished man never graced the floors of this assembly than my late lamented friend, James Boyle Uniacke. His noble form, easy deportment, graceful manners and ready flow of language

are familiar to many who listen to me to-day. No man who ever grappled with him, as I did in the early part of my life, would underestimate his powers. A mind ever fruitful, a tongue ever eloquent, humor inexhaustible, and pathos that few could resist, were among the gifts or attainments of my honorable friend. His colloquial powers were even more marvellous than his forensic or parliamentary displays. He charmed the Senate by his eloquence; but how delightful was he when surrounded by a knot of friends beneath the gallery, or seated at his own hospitable board. How often have I thought, when meeting abroad the choice spirits of both continents, how rare it was to find a man in all respects a match for James Boyle Uniacke. But he was distinguished not only as a legislator. His means and his intellect were embarked in every enterprise which promised the advancement of the common interest, or the growth of public spirit.

"Such was the man, sir, to whom, and to the management of whose department foul language has been applied by the members of the Government. \* \* \* \* \*

What need be said? We all knew him and we know them. A serpent may crawl over the statue of Apollo, but the beautiful proportion of the marble will yet be seen beneath the slime. That my friend may have had his errors, I am not here to deny; but I rejoice that, whatever they were, God, in His infinite mercy, and not man, in his malignity, is hereafter to be the judge."

Space forbids a fuller recital of incidents in connection with the public life of these distinguished men. The foundation of our national life and the shaping of our political institutions are derived from the character of the men who took part in the early political struggles of those provinces which now form Canada, and whatever there was of worth and interest in their career we ought not willingly let die.