

THE CURRENT OF CANADIANISM.

Having outlined the work and achievements of the Imperialistic school, let us briefly consider the counter current of what may be designated as *Canadianism* or *nationalism*. By the term nationalism must, of course, be understood *Canadian nationalism*, that is to say nationalism in its broadest sense and not in any sense of provincialism or sectionalism, with which the term is sometimes confounded. For that reason the term *Canadianism* may be preferred to nationalism by some. But call it Canadianism or nationalism as you will, mere words of themselves are of little importance; it is what they denote that signifies. Real liberalism, true Canadianism and Canadian nationalism are to me synonymous terms.

From much that has been said and written the impression would be gained that Canadianism or nationalism in Canada is something of recent growth. Historically nothing could be further from the truth. Canadianism or nationalism as a matter of fact antedates even the establishment of the Dominion itself. When Lord Durham in his famous report laid down the principle that the government of the two Canadas should be according to the express will of the people and when that principle was recognized by the Imperial authorities Canadianism or nationalism may be said to have had its beginning. Durham's declaration was, in fact, the first recognition of nationalism in the direction of Canadian affairs and ever since then it has never failed to have its ardent supporters and advocates. It was for Canadianism or nationalism that the two Papineaus, LaFontaine, Morin and Baldwin contended in the great struggle for the political freedom of Canadians. The heirs of their patriotic labors were Macdonald, Cartier, Brown, Galt and the other great Fathers of Confederation who carried the principle to a further development in the establishment of Confederation. The tide of Canadianism or nationalism began to flow strongly in the last years of the Union and it continued to flow with increasing strength until it swept sectionalism