

part have noted most gloriously; and if they have asked us to take on our shoulders a portion of those burdens which they deem our youthful vigor can and should sustain, they have given us credit for a corresponding quantum of intelligence, by throwing into our hands the undivided control of our finances. By placing the supreme power in the hands of our central Legislature—in a word, in constituting us a Nation in everything but the name. What the results of this great change in our political life may be it is easy to see. Blessings innumerable may flow from it, and will, if the personal ambition of political leaders does not ruin at the outset the fairest future ever placed within a young nation's reach. On the people themselves must now depend the future of the country; and let no man, however humble his path in life, however ignorant, however lowly he may deem himself to be, think that it is no concern of his. In this world nothing is without its use—no man without a profitable role to play in the great drama of life. As the mighty volume of the St. Lawrence is made up of but drops of water, so is the great torrent of public sentiment formed of individual opinions. Legislation of the present has done all it could to ensure harmony and good-will in the future; but what success will attend these efforts will greatly depend on the spirit in which the representatives of the various provinces first meet each other. The union legalized on paper must be sealed in spirit, or it will prove as great a curse as it will otherwise be a blessing. Extended territory, natural capabilities, and legislative power will in themselves prove of little value to us unless utilized by feelings of good fellowship, individual energy in commerce, and a conscientious exercise of the franchise. To encourage sentiments of charitable forbearance, commercial energy, and political probity is now a paramount duty with every Canadian; and he is no true citizen, unworthy of any man's respect or attention, who, to gratify personal ambition and revenge, would seek in our new political life to introduce sectional strife or perpetuate the animosities of the past. The people of Upper and Lower Canada have had in the "dead look" of 1862 a severe lesson of the expense, confusion and disgrace which violent partizanship and unscrupulous lust for power may at any minute produce. Our loyalty impugned in England, our stock depreciated in the markets of the world, the useless expense of a general election thrust on the country, and the laws of one moment repelled the next, and all without a single advantage to the masses by whom the inconvenience was suffered, and from whose pockets the money was drawn. Of such scenes we have had enough. We know that a house divided against itself cannot stand, and that there are even now abroad among us men endeavoring to rekindle the almost extinguished embers of political animosity. We have little fears

that they will succeed if fairly met by the honest-minded portion of the population; but apathy on the part of the friends of true union may enable the demons of discord to accomplish their task. The promoters of discord, political as well as moral, are prone to be early and earnest at their work, knowing that superior perseverance and vigilance alone can give them success. It behoves every man to be on his guard and earnestly at work against them. If in addition to our own old puerile quarrels of Upper Canada against Lower Canada, sectional disputes from the other provinces are to be brought into the new Legislature, miserable indeed will be the state of the country. Each will in that case find they have taken to themselves many spirits worse than the original demon they endeavored to cast out, and their last state worse than the first. Our vast territory may then be made a source of weakness instead of strength, the inhabitants of each section, hindered through local jealousies the progress of the rest, and the free action vested in our parliament corrupted and abused by political demagogues. Against these evils, and the men, who, for personal purposes, bring them upon us, we must be on our guard, and, at once stamp out the destroying fire of political passion that they are striving to kindle. They must be made to know that the new United Canada wants no such fire-brands in the chamber of her rulers, their ideas may suit a country where Ignorance is worshiped and License confounded with Liberty; but amongst us who desire to see intelligence and honesty presiding in our Legislatures and Courts, who are blessed with the true spirit of freedom, they can no longer have a place. If, however, we enter into the compact, determined to let the dead past bury its dead, to put the best construction on each others actions and exercise mutual forbearance to each others failings, (and such, we believe, is the wish of the great majority of the people) progress and prosperity in the world's annals can hardly fail to be ours. For the talents of our legislators our new existence opens a field of usefulness compared to which their former limited sphere of action sinks into insignificance, and if they but apply their energies aright, will enable them to take a high position among the statesmen of the world. As the extent of our resources, the freedom of our institutions, and the justice of our laws become more widely known, the surplus population of the old world will in greater numbers flock to our territory; a wider scope will be given to the enterprise of our merchants, and in every way there will be opened to us a fair future, which nothing but our own perversity can destroy. The cups of national prosperity and failure are both presented to us, and it is for us to choose of which we will drink. Our choice will not influence our destiny only, but that of those who come after us, and it remains for us to say whether future generations will

revere us for profiting by the opportunities afforded us, or curse our memory for wilfully casting away the good fortune placed within our grasp.

THE SECOND OF JUNE.

It will be long before the anniversary of the battle of Ridgeway is forgotten by the people of Canada; for insignificant as the action may appear in the eyes of military men, it forms an episode in Canadian history not less important to us as a people than the most terrific struggles between the great nation of the world have been to them. The apathy into which we had sunk during a long period of peace, concerning military preparation, was dispelled, our loyalty, which semi republicans in England had ventured to asperse was fully vindicated, and the ignorant masses of the United States were furnished with a convincing proof that despite the falsehoods of their demagogues, there was nothing more dear to the Canadian people than the preservation of British connection and institutions. While we may rejoice that these great ends have been accomplished at a comparatively small national loss, we should be wanting in every feeling of gratitude and humanity did we not in some way mark our appreciation of the sacrifice made by the gallant few who fell beneath the invaders fire. To the widow and orphan we can never replace the tender husband and affectionate father, to the heart-broken parent we cannot restore the "only son," stricken down in the full vigor of youth, with a bright career opening before him; but, for the credit of ourselves we should raise some national token of respect for their memory. The thought that they have fallen on a good cause, and that their fellow-countrymen value the sacrifice they have made is the only comforting reflection which is left to those, who, in life, loved them. In bringing to completion the proposed monument in Toronto there has been apparent want of progress far from creditable to us, and for which no reasonable excuse can be made. Let those who have hitherto neglected contributing to the fund for its erection consider for a moment whose memory it is intended to commemorate, and in whose defence they fell. Let them not forget that it was the alacrity with those brave ones rushed to confront the first aggressor that made our foes understand the true feeling of the Canadian population, and crushed an attack upon our rights, which less promptly met might have been longer protracted, and eventually embroiled as with the American Government. To the self-sacrifice made by them we owe it in a great measure, that a far greater price of blood was not required for the preservation of our liberties, and acknowledgement of the debt we owe beyond mere words is surely due to their memories.