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### THE DIAMOND JUBILEE.

The event to which many minds are turned, and which to Britons, is one of the most interesting of the century, will transpire next week, when the sixtieth year since the Queen's coronation will have been completed. In no part of Her



THE PRINCESS VICTORIA, AT THE AGE OF TWO, AND THE DUCHESS OF KENT

Majesty's extensive realm is a deeper interest manifested in the event than in Canada. The centre of attraction is, of course, London. There the celebration will be on a scale of magnificence truly grand. Money will flow like water and the wit of man has been strained to produce pageantry and spectacular display. In Canada there will be pageantry also, as there will throughout the British dependencies, and

if on a proportionately smaller scale, the feeling of loyal thankfulness the demonstrations will represent, will be none the less sincere. Some of our contemporaries complain of the large amount of money spent on mere show, when so many people starve for bread, and when public works, and public benefactions are so greatly needed. It is difficult to defend the large expenditures on business grounds, in face of the poverty and suffering that abound within the Queen's Dominions. While the jubilee gifts would not be sufficient to remove poverty, their value in money would go far to relieve the hard lot of many a deserving, struggling British subject, and the establishment of public institutions would certainly be a more rational thank offering for the Queen's glorious reign, than a splendid procession, with some of the seats from which to look at it costing hundreds of dollars each. The course followed so generally has been adopted not for want of suggestions to do otherwise. For many months columns have been devoted to pointing out ways in which the Diamond Jubilee might worthily be celebrated and as some of the suggestions are still practicable a few of them may be reproduced. One was that all lawful and reasonable debts be paid from a public fund to which the rich would largely contribute. Another was that the farmers receive freehold titles to their farms, the compensation to landlords to be from a similar fund. Both these suggestions involve difficulties which cannot now be well surmounted: but the suggestion that all church debts be paid by voluntary subscriptions is still open, as is also that hospitals should be endowed and that seats of learning should be strengthened and enriched. The thousands of dollars spent by municipalities and private individuals on a day's carnival of exciting celebration would go far to provide many mementoes necessary and useful.

But whatever may be said as to the wisdom of some of the forms of commemorating the jubilee, all will agree that the motives are deep-seated and most laudable. To some these demonstrations are acknowledgements of the manifold blessings enjoyed by mankind during an eventful reign: others are attached to the person of the sovereign who has exemplified in her own life the virtues that grace the cottage and palace, the chair and the throne. Others, again, find the acme of monarchy in Victoria's reign, and there are those who will find expression in the coming parades for the loyalty they yield to rightful authority. Whatever the standpoint, the impulse is good, and the results will be beneficial in many respects.

It is not intended here to enumerate the outstanding features of the "record reign," but the testimony of the Canadian House of Commons to the moral and religious prosperity of our Country is worth repeating. The loyal address sent by Parliament has it: "Not only have none of your illustrious predecessors sat on the throne of our country for so extended a period, but in the history of the nations of the world few monarchs have ruled so long and none have been so universally honored and revered. Looking back across the 60 years which have elapsed since your Majesty's coronation, it is impossible not to be impressed with the immense strides which during that period have been made by the civilized world in all that constitutes the moral, intellectual and