

but, on the other hand, has not the bounty of half a continent, rich in natural resources, ministered liberally to our wants? Have the manly vigor, moral excellency and industry of a young country to be computed by a pile of gold coins? Did not a frugal decree of that sagacious lawgiver, Lyceurgus, centuries ago, attack the luxurions habits of the Spartans—long accustomed to wealth—and prohibit the currency of gold and silver coins, substituting iron; immense quantities thereof representing but a trifling value? The conditions which originated in this step led to Sparta acquiring the distinguished character by which she has subsequently been known to history. Wealth far surpassing the fabulous treasure of Croesus lies hidden, nay is disclosed, in the broad surface of this land, and with a marvellousness exceeding the pretensions alchemists of old, industry's hand needs but touch the most worthless products when it becomes changed into gold, or into its nearest equivalent for human existence—bread. It is true that the unsculptured creations of Canada's history, in the main, yet repose in unborn minds and unwrought deeds, but centuries hence those characters shall, life like, leap forth to posterity, hewn not by the sword and the battle axe of a barbarous and rude age, but by the cunning hand of intelligence, industry and national equality.

The pillars of the imperious temple of Canadian history already tower aloft, and if yet the superstructure, contains no glorious scene emulating the conquest of an India, it is also spared the sad memory of an inhuman Hastings and a tale of widespread woe. If as yet it remains unadorned by the distinguished presence of a Bacon, a Chatham or a Burke, it is also wanting in example the rarity of a Marlborough, the barbarity of a Jeffreys; and the perfidy of a Charles I. If yet it cannot exult in the claim of ancient and illustrious nobility, it knows not the reproach of denying the title of the meanest citizen to a fair apportionment of this country's life sustaining domain. If yet it remains unhallowed by the memory of fierce fires of intellectual and religious thralldom,