

adopted during the present reign, and gives every possible expansion to colonial energy and ambition. It took British statesmen more than half a century, from the independence of the thirteen colonies to the concession of responsible government, to learn by experience of colonial conditions the best system to apply to countries which had reached a certain high stage in their material, political and social development. Canada's position in the empire is one of which her people may be justly proud ; but as Canadians review the past, with its many evidences of devotion to the empire, of capacity for self-government, of statesmanlike conception and action in the administration of public affairs, they must not forget how much they owe to the men who laid, firm and deep, the foundations of the national structure. To some of the eminent makers of Canada monuments have been raised, but the vast majority lie in quiet churchyards, where the finger of time has obliterated even their names from the moss-covered stones where once they were rudely chiselled. But, though they are no longer here, their spirit still survives in the confidence and energy with which the people of this Dominion are laboring to develop the great natural heritage which they possess on the American continent, and in the loyalty which they feel for the British crown and empire. Though they are no longer here, their memory should be ever cherished in the country which owes them so deep a debt of gratitude. In the words of an eloquent son of a Loyalist, Joseph Howe, poet, orator and statesman :

“ Not here ? Oh, yes, our hearts their presence feel,  
Viewless, not voiceless, from the deepest shells,  
On memory's shore harmonious echoes steal,  
And names which, in the days gone by, were spells,  
Are blent with that soft music, if there dwells  
The spirit here our country's fame to spread,  
While every breast with joy and triumph swells,  
And earth reverberates to our measured tread,  
Banner and wreath will own our reverence for the dead.”