

## ODIOUS MACHINE POLITICS 879

ing avalanche of vituperation against Quebec, on the basis laid down by the Bonne Entente, which came into being for the very purpose of holding far-seeing men together, it was replied that it was a good thing to have the racial and religious fight out! It would show that what single-minded men entered as a purely patriotic movement, became the victim of a peculiarly odious form of machine politics.

Unhappily, when individuals touch the relations of communities, their failings and culpabilities are apt to be attributed to the communities to which they belong. In Quebec, the treacheries that are indicated in these pages have by some been charged against Ontario as a whole, and have been added to what is felt to be a long tale of political perfidies. This is a mistake, but, in the circumstances, not a fault. There is a plenitude of goodwill on both sides of the Ottawa River, waiting for constructive expression.

It is useless for sane men and women to allow ill-will to develop in provincial masses, without regard to the attitudes of men and women who have learnt to understand each other, and who understand, also, that the harmony of the State must be founded on the goodwill of the individuals composing it. When men of whose sincerity, breadth and patriotism you have had abundant proof take a gloomy view of present conditions, their views must be heeded.

None of those who had most to do with the French side of the Bonne Entente has been known to say that he has lost confidence in the leaders of Quebec—it could not be said justifiably. But letters from different cities in Quebec contain expressions which it is impossible to ignore, and of which well-disposed citizens in Ontario and other provinces should know. Here are three extracts:—

“The leaders of the movement in Quebec had lost confidence in the Ontario people, and the only thing we could do was to let matters drop. . . . Quebec feels she was bluffed by the Ontario movement.”

“We have been so badly deceived by Ontario that