

The name National, however, applied at the present juncture to our Club, has, I suppose, a somewhat more special meaning. I suppose it implies that sectionalism and faction are beginning to lose their hold; that Canadians, especially those of the rising generation, are beginning to desire association and intercourse on a somewhat broader and more rational basis, and one more commensurate with the hopes and interests of the country than that of either of the two old parties. As to the two old parties, I find that the best and shrewdest Canadians think that there is a great deal of truth in what each says of the other every morning. One of them is now on a sick bed from which it is not likely to rise again unless some one can perform for it a miracle like that which was performed for the sick king of old, and make the shadow go back on the dial of Canadian history. The other party is victorious; but in the hour of victory it is in great danger of becoming an organization under cover of which, and beneath the mask of whose specious professions, a secret and irresponsible influence will control the