

subjects, or it may be that the emigrant to Canada carried with him his British politics. At all events, it is some source of gratification for the Liberals of Canada to know that the great movements they inaugurated and to which they consecrated all their energies were movements similar in kind and principle to those which received the support of the great Liberal statesmen of England. When a Canadian on the floor of Parliament or on a public platform declares that no government should make religious opinions a test of citizenship, it might be gratifying to know that such views were entertained by Lord John Russell, John Bright, W. E. Gladstone and all the Liberal lights of the last century. Similarly, when a demand is made for greater freedom of trade, for the extension of the franchise, the protection of the elector at the ballot box, the sovereignty of the people in all matters pertaining to government, purity in the administration of public affairs, the personal integrity of the representatives of the people, these and kindred measures of vast importance to the state have been the watchwords of the Liberal party in Great Britain since the great revolution, and have occupied the thoughts of our ablest and purest statesmen, notably those representing the Liberal party. The historical perspective then of Canadian Liberalism is most satisfactory as well as instructive and would well repay fuller investigation.

The Liberal party first asserted itself in Upper Canada (now Ontario) by boldly protesting against the tyranny of the "Family Compact" and by demanding (1) the exclusion from political or partisan office of all appointees of the Government; (2) the entire control of all the revenues of the country; and (3) the responsibility of the executive, i.e., the Government, to the people's representatives in Parliament.

Since Confederation the Liberal party has advocated with great energy, and in some cases successfully the following measures:

(1) First, and always, the connection of Canada with the British Empire.
(2) The economical and honest expenditure of public moneys, the letting of all public contracts to the lowest tender, the erection of public buildings in the public interest and not in the interest of any locality.

(3) The strict observance of the terms of the federal compact. No "better terms" to one Province without the consent of all parties. No subsidies for any public purpose to one Province unless the work subsidized could fairly be said to be of interest to the whole Dominion. No attempt to encroach upon the rights of any Province.

(4) The extension of the franchise and the adoption of Provincial franchises for Dominion purposes, the preservation as far as possible of the political boundaries for the constituencies, for Provincial and Dominion purposes, the abolition of all Dominion offices connected with the revision of the voters' lists and the abolition of all gerrymandering henceforth and forever.

(5) The reduction of the tariff as far as the necessities of the revenue will permit with the complete elimination of every feature of the tariff of a distinctively protective character.

(6) The enlargement of the trade of Canada by means of treaties where treaties can be made that will not endanger the political integrity of the country. This includes the right conceded to Canada to make her own treaties, provided such treaties are not opposed to Imperial interest.

The conclusion of the whole matter briefly put is this: the Liberal party is a party of hope. It grows upon the decay of the principles opposed to it;