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CANADIAN PATRIOTISM, THE LEVER OF CANADIAN GREATNESS.

"Such is the Patriot's boast, where'er we roam,
His first, best country ever is his home."

We heard it remarked, a short time since, by an eloquent and powerful Christian orator, that one of the most serious impediments, if not the greatest hinderance, to Canadian advancement, was the absence of a *true Canadian feeling*—a feeling of what might be termed *Canadian nationality*, in contradistinction to a feeling of mere colonial or annexationist vassalage. The orator stated, that he did not like the term "British Canadian feeling," but he did like that of "Canadian British feeling." It should be Canada first for the people of Canada, and Canada British, either by civil connexion or national alliance. It was in the depth, vigour, and energy of this feeling, the speaker maintained, that the hope and life of Canadian prosperity and greatness are bound up.

This subject demands the consideration of every man who claims Canada as his native or adopted country. When a man emigrates to Canada, his home, his interests and his hopes are no longer English, or Scotch, or Irish, or French, or German, but *Canadian*. He has left his father-land and joined himself to Canada, as a "man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they twain become one flesh." He respects, he venerates, he loves, he sympathizes with his parentage; but his cares, his interests, his heart, himself, his future, his all, are blended and identified with other objects and with another home. The well-being of home is the first object of his natural and dutiful solicitude. What is true in respect to an individual family and home, is equally true in regard to a people and a country. An injury done to the credit, the security, the character of a country, is an injury done to each inhabitant of it, except those who speculate in their country's misfortune, and rise by its depressions, like ship-wreckers and free-booters.

It was the first duty and the true interest of the earliest settlers in Canada to make the most of their adopted country—to look at home as much as possible, and to look abroad as little as possible—to devise every plan and employ every energy to create a supply in Canada for the inhabitants of Canada—to rely upon themselves for the management of their country, as well as of their farms and shops, and not upon foreign management in the one case any more than in the other. This is clearly the pervading spirit of the Colonial policy propounded on the part of HER MAJESTY'S Government by Lord JOHN RUSSELL, in his late speech in the House of Commons; and it is the spirit which should actuate every colonist. Some of the ancient Greek and Phœnician colonies soon equalled their parent states, with which they ever maintained, with scarcely an exception, a filial friendship and intimate alliance; yet they looked to the territories they colonized as their homes, and relied upon themselves as the architects of their own fortunes and the founders of their countries' prosperity and greatness.

It cannot be too strongly impressed upon every mind, that it is on Canadian energy, Canadian ambition, Canadian self-reliance, skill and enterprise,—in a word, on Canadian patriotism—that depends Canadian prosperity, elevation, and happiness. The fact that some men by honest and intelligent industry, as tradesmen, mechanics, farmers, merchants and professional men have risen from poverty to comfort, and even affluence, shows what others

might have done by equal honesty, intelligence and industry. In agricultural productiveness, Canada is superior to New York; in water-power and hydraulic privileges it is equal to any of the New England States; in lumber it is a contributor to both the American and English markets; its mineral resources are ample to supply its own implements of industry, as its cattle and flocks are equal to its wants for labour, food and clothing. Its sky is as clear as that of Italy, and its climate as healthy as that of Germany; its institutions are even freer than those of England, and its administration of justice confessedly more independent and impartial than that of the United States. The social and material advancement of Canada in former years was confessedly slow; but compare its progress for the last ten years in any and every respect with that of any of the neighboring States from Maine to Michigan, apart from the advantages some of them possess as being the sea-ports and thoroughfares for other States, and the results will be honourable to Canada. Compare every thing progressive in those States which is not adventitious but which depends upon home industry and enterprise, and Canada, with all its faults and short-comings, has much more reason to be proud than to be ashamed. It is true Canadian *hypocrisies* have done much to disturb and retard its interests; but this spirit of defaming and conspiring against one's country on grounds of personal cupidity, ambition or resentment, instead of consulting and maintaining its honour and interests, even in exile, like an *ARISTIDES* and a *CÆNON*, is as alien to the general feeling as it is hostile to the general interests of Canada. But in as far as this (a foreign-selfish spirit, instead of home-patriotic spirit) exists—this spirit of crying to *HERCULES* instead of helping oneself—this spirit of idle lottery scheming instead of self-relying manly independence and industry—this spirit of degrading one's country instead of exalting it—Canadian enterprise will be damped, the value of Canadian securities and property will be depreciated, and Canadian progress impeded. In the days of *GRÆCIAN* self-reliance, unity and patriotism, that little peninsula of half the territorial extent of Canada, repelled the most numerous armies recorded in history, and defied a power whose domains extended from the Indus to the *Ægean* and from the *Euxine* to the cataracts of the Nile.—Let each Canadian love his country and seek its glory as did the ancient Greeks during the era when private patriotism and public virtue were inscribed upon their national escutcheon. We have no strife of foreign war—no hostile rivalry of nations;—our warfare is a domestic, bloodless one—a warfare of virtue against vice, of knowledge against ignorance, of self-dependence against foreign-dependence, of public spirit against personal littleness, of the love of Canada as ourselves, instead of the love of self against Canada, of the dignified and generous industry of a *CINCINNATUS* instead of the selfish and protean adventures of an *ALCIBIADES*. Surely if

"The shuddering tenant of the Frigid Zone
Proudly proclaims the happiest spot his own;
The naked negro, panting on the line,
Boasts of his golden sands and palmy wine;"

all true Canadians can say to the genial land of their birth or adoption,

"Our bosoms with rapture beat high at thy name,
Thy health is our transport—our triumph thy fame."

We will conclude our present remarks on this subject in the words of an address to the students of *HARVARD COLLEGE*, by the Rev. Dr. BETHUNE, of Philadelphia.

"Patriotism has been regarded by some as a visionary virtue, existing only in boyish dreams, romantic rhapsodies, and declarations of demagogues; by others it has been denounced as a narrow vice, the opposite of Christian philanthropy. The first are at variance with the general sense of mankind; the last, with the moral economy ordained by God. That there are those who, while professing love for their country, would sacrifice