

to poverty. It shows of what unbending material they were composed, and with their strong wills and stronger arms they laid the foundation of another country that it may not be beyond the reach of possibilities to imagine, shall rival the land from which they were driven. This act no doubt occasioned the settlement of the Western Province many years earlier than it would have occurred under other circumstances, and notwithstanding the attempts that were made to subdue the country when the struggle came, our fathers, who had lost none of their patriotic fire, though comparatively few in number, were not slow to shoulder their muskets and march away in defence of the land of their adoption. There were no differences of opinion on this point. A people who had first been robbed of their worldly goods and then driven from the homes of their youth were not likely soon to forget either their wrongs or sufferings nor to give up the new homes they had made for themselves under the keenest privations and severest toils, without a struggle. As our fathers successfully resisted the one, so have their children the threats and blandishments that have been used from time to time to bring us under the protecting ægis of the Stars and Stripes. The wounds that were inflicted nearly a century ago have happily closed, and we can look now with admiration on the rapid progress of the American people in all that goes to make up a great and prosperous country, and we hope to live in peace and unity with them. Still we like our own country and its system of government better, and feel that we have no reason to be discontented with its progress, nor if true to ourselves to have any doubt as to its future.

The year 1830 may be taken as the commencement of a new order of things in Canada. The people were prosperous: immigration was rapidly increasing. A system of Government had been inaugurated which, if not all

that could be desired, was capable of being moulded into a shape that would meet the wants of a young and growing country—laws to protect society, encourage education, and foster trade and commerce. The application of steam in England and the United States, not only to manufacturing purposes but to navigation, which had made some progress, but rapidly increased after this date, and the illustration Stephenson gave, in September of this year, of its capabilities as a motor in land transit, completely revolutionized the commerce of the world. It assailed every branch of industry, and in a few years transformed all. The inventive genius of mankind seemed to gather new energy, and a clearer insight into the vast results opening out before it, and the innumerable inventions which have succeeded; for the more uniform and rapid production of almost every conceivable thing used by man, have all had their origin in this Renaissance. Our Province, though remote from this 'new birth,' could not but feel a touch of the pulsation that was stirring the world, and, though but in its infancy, it was not backward in laying hold of these discoveries and applying them as far as its limited resources would admit. As early as 1816, we had a steamer ('The Frontenac') running on Lake Ontario, and others soon followed, but the increase was much more rapid after the date we refer to, and the improvement in construction and speed was equally marked. Owing to our sparse and scattered population as well as our inability to build, we did not undertake constructing railroads until 1853, when the Northern Railway was opened to Bradford, but after that we went at it in earnest, and have kept at it until we have made our Province a net-work of railways. In order more fully to realize our position at this time, it must be borne in mind that our population only reached 210,437.

Those whose recollection runs back to this time, have witnessed changes