

night hesitating "coldly eyes the youthful Phœbus" and ——— disappears.

We have a "people drawn from different countries and of different "faiths," and the parts have not yet been fused into homogeneity. All we can say to each citizen is that—in the case of an immigrant who has settled here—having come here of his own free will—his first duty is to this country—and he has no right to bring disturbing controversies or antagonistic allegiances from elsewhere. In the case of all—to enrich, to enlighten, to elevate the country of adoption or birth is the supreme duty—and we are so situated that this can be loyally done by persons of all nationalities and all creeds, and nearly all political sentiments. We only make ourselves ridiculous if we shout in chorus "we must be national" without having any definite idea, or sing stuff like Mr. Edgar's lyric about this "Canada of ours"—a poem which should have been illustrated by a napkined baby doing irreverence to his warrior father's helmet.

There are three courses before us, (1) To go on as we are, enjoying "the influences and the inspiring contact of a great nation"—a contact which those who have been below the line know has on our social and political life, the happiest effects. (2) To seek for Imperial Federation, the supposed advantages of which would seem to be delusive. (3) To look forward to independence.

As to this last there is no reason for regarding with any disfavour its discussion. But if we are not going to bring it into existence right off, what is the use of talking about it? What above all, is the use of talking about it if a majority of the people and a majority who have some backbone and would stand to their guns, are utterly opposed to it? The inconvenience of premature controversies will appear from the following pages, for it will be seen that what has proved the mere vapouring of a few young men with their wit, where Ajax's was, in the ventral region, has been regarded in England as a thunder cloud. The writer of "The Great Game" is not in the least aware that the Canada First gentlemen objected to nothing so much as to be taken seriously. Looking at all the circumstances, the first course would seem the best one to pursue, especially if we lean