

the grave upon it, is too sacred to be regarded in a party aspect. Even during his life-time, the ties which bound him to party were weakened, if not entirely severed. But we may say, that, whether right or wrong in his political predilections, he sincerely aimed in the course he pursued, (not so much to gain a triumph over his opponents, as) to promote the welfare of his country.

As a public man, Huntington had defects, which we cannot well overlook in a delineation of his character, and which all will remember in the spirit of charity. That he sometimes manifested an unseemly petulance and irritability of temper cannot be denied. It should not however be forgotten that he was afflicted with physical infirmities, which had a depressing effect upon his spirits, and an unhappy influence upon the natural placidity of his temper. He was perhaps too prone to suspect the candour of those around him; and his suspicions were as often entertained in respect to his party friends as to his opponents. But in the chequered arena of public life, he had listened to many counterfeit declarations of patriotism and disinterestedness, and had detected much detestable dissimulation in various disguises:—no wonder, then, that he became sensitively, and even nervously, distrustful; for no man was less inclined than he to bow the knee to the false gods of duplicity or expediency—and none had a more profound and utter abhorrence of affectation, falsehood, pretence, cant and hypocrisy in all their fantastical shapes and imposing forms. He was not naturally inclined to be suspicious; but experience in the hollow-heartedness of others, had made him so. His suspicions, however, were too general—too indiscriminate. The blunt abruptness—(at times almost rudeness) of his manners, was less attributable to any want of the true spirit of courtesy, or of due respect for the feelings and social claims of others, than to the innate frankness and amiable simplicity of his own nature. He had a stern and loathsome dislike for any thing overwrought or glaringly artistic in the Chesterfieldian school of fashionable manners; and this, perhaps, was the reason why the politer graces were not oftener seen in his own deportment. These defects, however, were like scarcely perceptible spots in the sun. But there were indeed few shadows to darken the brightness of his excellent character—to dim the lustre of his reputation—or to lessen his popularity—a popularity, which if it be not entitled to the higher and more enduring appellation of fame, must long live in the grateful remembrance of his countrymen.

It is not our present purpose to speak of Huntington's private habits and those sterling virtues, which, in the retirement of his home, were prized and revered, and which brightened a circle of domestic love and happiness. Alas, what a blank has been made in that family circle! We have merely attempted to sketch the lineaments of a clear-headed, strong-minded, and sound-hearted patriot of Nova Scotia. In conclusion, we may, however, say that a kinder or more affectionate heart towards those who had claims upon his care, his sympathy, and his love, never beat more warmly in any man's bosom than in Herbert Huntington's.