

—The Montreal *Gazette*, alluding to the defeat of Mr. Nelson for the Mayoralty, says that, henceforth, every man who aspires to municipal honours ought to have *French Spoken Here*, written over his door. "Not so bad!" cries *Le Monde*, "this is the truth told in jest; at least so we hope." The hope seems likely to be fulfilled, and the prospect of its fulfilment is a very serious feature in the political situation. French feeling, instead of departing, is growing more intense. So long as Quebec was a mere boulder of Old France, entirely unconnected with the France of modern times, the dissolution of a colonial nationality, sluggishly tenacious, rather than vigorous, and fed by no infusion of spirit from the mother country, seemed to be merely a question of time. It was sure to come, and likely to come with a rush, like the dissolution of the Gaelic nationality in the Scotch Highlands; like that of the Welsh nationality, which is rapidly going on in Wales. But now the connection with France, commercial, literary and social, has been renewed, and it is certain that to strengthen the bond will be henceforth an object of French ambition. Algeria is nothing but a garrison; Quebec is the only colony of France. Napoleon III., when he was prowling from house to house all along the row, laying his plans for future burglaries, made a little plant against Quebec, as well as against Louisiana; but before our turn came, he fell into the hands of justice. A revived New France will be beyond our powers of absorption. Fusion could hardly have failed to be facilitated by Legislative Union, and there are some who think that, if that bold measure had been ventured on, resistance would have been overcome; but no doubt the step would have been bold, especially as Nova Scotia was in so uncertain a mood. The time, however, is now gone by, and though there may be two Canadian nationalities, one French, the other English, there seems to be less ground than ever for hoping that the two will become one. The conquest of Quebec will have a curious epilogue. Imperialists must admit that the fashion of Empire, at all events, has changed. In former days, the Roman did as he pleased with