

brilliant achievements, with what thunder tones would they arouse to united thought and action the men of Ontario?

Say not that it is wrong to rouse the ancient feud. Frenchmen who boastingly write of the undying hatred of the Western French for all things English can hardly accuse us of that. Cease this senseless babble about "United Canada" while such things exist. Annihilate the bugbear of sentiment and so-called patriotism and deal courageously with the hard unyielding facts of the case. Facts not fancies are wanted in Canada now. It is not we who are disloyal to Canada in laying bare the festering sores that are sapping its strength and perilling its existence. They only are disloyal and unpatriotic who hide these sores and declare to all the world that Canada is strong and healthy while the cancerous roots are burying themselves deeper and deeper every day.

Let Ontario's sons view with shame the position their Province really holds in Confederation, for they have themselves to blame. Liberals and Conservatives alike acknowledge by their acts the French Canadians as their rulers. This is no idle figure of speech. Neither of the leaders dares to go contrary to the French Canadian will. Why is this? Why is it that we who should be strongest are really weakest? The answer is not far to seek. Because the French Canadians have as their ally this fiend of party, this spirit of faction which clogs the brains, stops the mouths, ties the hands, and saps the courage of our ablest representatives. Because the people of Quebec are Roman Catholic first, French next and Liberal or Conservative last, while the people of Ontario have been Grit or Tory first, Protestants next and Ontarians last.

Shall this state of affairs continue? Shall Ontario, the Premier Province in wealth, population and intelligence, longer remain, by reason of party hostility, the bond servant of Quebec, or will her people, casting aside all petty differences, unite their forces, emblazon on their banners: "Ontario first," and take the position in Confederation to which they are justly entitled?

Let a statesman, worthy of the name, honest, courageous and true, manfully come forward and declare his only policy to be the placing of this Province in its rightful position, and although he will incur the bitter hostility of the party hacks, he will in a very short time gather round his standard the vast majority of the people of Ontario, will attain a noble end, and will gain for himself an undying name in the history of this Dominion.

Let no one imagine that the rights or privileges of French Canadians or Roman Catholics will be imperilled. Equal liberty to all is the basis of our constitution. But, if there is one drop of the old blood still in our veins, if there is yet one spark of the old fire that moved our ancestors to deeds of heroism and martyrdom, then, while to our French Canadian compatriots and Roman Catholic friends we accord the fullest liberty consistent with the liberty of others, let us at the same time in tones that shall ring from Vancouver to Halifax insist that Canada is still a British possession, that the Protestant religion is still the religion of Canada, and that English, Scotch and Irish Canadians do not enjoy their rights and privileges at the hands or by the grace of French Canadians or Roman Catholics, but that French Canadians and Roman Catholics enjoy their rights and privileges at the hands of the English, Scotch and Irish Canadian Protestants.

CARLOS.

### THE FUTURE OF MEXICO.

WASHINGTON, July 11, 1885.

THE financial distress of the Government of Mexico and the repudiatory measures resorted to for temporary relief has set people here thinking and talking about the course and development of the future relations of the two countries.

A very few years ago no kind nor amount of public bankruptcy or repudiation in Mexico would have given the mass of our people a second thought, and our teeming dailies would have bestowed upon such matters nothing more than an occasional and unobtrusive telegram, with here and there a brief smirking editorial paragraph, notching another mark on the tally stick of our superior civilization and progress.

The normal attitude of our people towards Mexico has been one of supreme indifference. Only twice hitherto has that country come fairly into our horizon; the first time when we went to war with her to get Texas, which our slaveholders coveted in aid of the vain hope of maintaining themselves politically against the overbalancing growth of the Free States, and the second time when Napoleon III. took advantage of our Civil War to plant himself as an intending dictator on the Western Continent.

It seems as though it were but yesterday that the stern but peaceful rule of Diaz, who has just returned to power, gave Mexico such a period of repose that our speculators and investors began to contemplate her as a possible and even proper subject of development in the commercial sense. In truth, our railroading and stock-ranching enterprises had carried us

clear down to the border at sundry points and places in Texas, New Mexico and Arizona, and it was absolutely necessary either to break into Mexico or turn back to the too fierce competitions along the older channels of activity. Mexico had seven millions of people destitute of these "facilities," which are as the breath of life to North Americans, and the country had room and natural resources enough for seventy millions if it only could be "Americanized." That is the short form of the story of the investment of perhaps as much as one hundred millions of dollars of American capital in Mexico within the space of less than ten years. Several causes contributed to the result. Overabundance of money and commercial depression at home, and in Mexico cupidity on the part of the official and landed classes, sharpened by temporary exemption from the excitements and occupations of chronic revolution.

After General Grant's failure to return to the Presidency and his determination to occupy himself with financing, he became prominent in some Mexican railway enterprises wherein Mr. Gould had large powers and interests, and this brought Mexican investments into prominence. The Mexican minister to the United States also engaged himself actively in the work of attracting American enterprise and capital to his country, and the Government of Mexico, both in its legislative and executive departments, made liberal terms with promoters as to concessions and subsidies. A reciprocity treaty was also negotiated which promised to open up a considerable trade, but it still lacks, as it doubtless always will lack, the mandate of the United States Senate necessary to put it in operation. The net result is that we have a great many millions locked up in Mexico, certain to be unproductive and liable to shrinkage right down to the vanishing point by public or private outbreaks, confiscations, and the variety of other means for assailing property familiar to Spanish-American history. The gradual loss of the present investment might, and probably would be endured without any political or serious diplomatic question arising therefrom, either in the immediate or remote future; but the process of drawing American capital and enterprise to Mexico has awakened expectations and created interests in both countries of a persistent and even eager character. Hence the exploitation of Mexico seems destined to go forward, whatever turns her politics and finances may take from now onward, and as bearing on this point it is worth noting that our press pays nearly as much attention to the future as to the present effect of the existing crisis upon our relations with Mexico, in its comments upon the news of the past few days.

The people of the United States have not been affected by the land-hunger that has seized upon some peoples of smaller territorial endowment. The great acquisitions from Mexico nearly forty years ago, were due, as already intimated, to the Southern desire to increase the area of slave territory as a counterpoise to the thickening population of the free States, and the Louisiana purchase by Jefferson was inspired by a perfectly comprehensible wish to own the outlet of the great river upon which, in the days before railways, the prosperity of the very young nation so greatly depended. If, then, there shall appear, sooner or later, anything like a movement here towards the absorption of Mexico into the Union it will be chargeable to the newly-felt aspiration for foreign markets on the part of our manufacturers. For seventy years we have consumed all but an insignificant part of what our factories have produced. We can do so no longer and must either apply our surplus resources to agriculture or compete with England and Europe in supplying old markets and creating new ones. The latter alternative is sure to be first tried, and the recognition of and acquiescence in such a course accounts for the extraordinary departure from revered tradition involved in our participation in the Congo Conference. Another straw indicating the prevailing direction of the wind is the renewed attention our people are paying to their diplomatic, consular, and naval services. We are going to regenerate some of the inferior races accessible to us by building railways and otherwise improving communications for them, and by developing their capacities for consuming and paying for the material products of a high civilization. All this will be impossible without the fostering influences of pure and stable government. In this last respect we have the field exclusive of Europe, so far as concerns Mexico and Central America, and there can be little doubt that we shall occupy it unless our commercial future should be doomed to early disaster. For the moment, we are watching events in Mexico and, while we do not exaggerate their immediate consequences, we fancy that we discern in them the foreshadowings of a manifest destiny which we do not invite, but shall rather await in courage and good conscience.

B.

### EDUCATION NOTES.

It has been officially announced that preparations have been completed for a professional course of study at the Normal Schools for teachers holding first-class non-professional certificates, and for those who wish to become assistant masters in High Schools. The attempt made by Dr. Ryerson twenty-seven years ago to provide such training for High School masters proved a failure; we trust Mr. Ross's plan has more vitality in it. No one will dispute that professional skill is as much needed in the High as in the Public School. To the first-class teacher, with the training and experience obtained while holding a lower grade of certificate, the matter is not of supreme importance; but, hitherto, the ranks of assistant masters of High Schools have been filled mainly by graduates fresh from the university; and the announcement of the Minister of Education is equivalent to a declaration that something more than a successful university career is needed for skilful work in a High School.

THE higher education of women grows apace. At the Toronto University this year five ladies graduated with high honors, and one stood first in