

by a race likely to be quickly assimilated by the North. Torn by petty strife, the Canadian people seemed ill fitted to confront a great issue. Party had become faction and there was a deadly apathy. If one more bridge was built in Upper Canada than happened to be built in the same year in Lower Canada the public mind was more disturbed than by any great question of national destiny.

By this time Canada had passed through the three stages in the evolution of the race problem. In the first the French influence was, on the whole, dominant; in the second the two races were isolated in separate provinces; in the third an attempt at union had led to the paralysis of representative institutions. The true and, we may hope, the final solution was to be found neither in isolation nor in complete union, but rather in both union and separation, union in the great affairs which touch trade, tariffs, public services like the post office, and the administration of justice; separation in respect to those things in which the two races had differing ideals, such as religion and education.

A federal union which should permit of such a system had long been talked of in Canada. It was inevitable that the example of the United States in creating such a system should have been pondered from time to time in the British provinces. In 1861 federalism had, however, received a