

and there see were but the expressions of a feeling that relief from some grievances could be obtained only by separation from him. Those episodes were always short-lived. Most of us are not old enough to remember one of them. Good Queen Victoria always received Canadian acclaim, and for her worthy son, we have the greatest admiration and affection. The present road—the road which Canada has travelled for one hundred and fifty years—has not, then, taken us a single step from Monarchy—from the Monarch that wears the British crown.

Turning now to the British Government as distinguished from the British King, observe that in the United Kingdom during these one hundred and fifty years sharp criticism and strenuous opposition have been directed against every Government that has ever been formed; and that every Government, but the present one, has been deposed and turned out of office by the votes of the people.

Every British Government encountered opposition not only "at home" (Is the expression familiar to your ears?) but in Canada also; and, curiously enough, while British opposition to these Governments was thought to be quite right, Canadian opposition to them was often described as not merely presumptuous but as disloyal.

Note now the difference between the power of the two oppositions—the British and the Canadian. The British could turn the Government it disliked out of office and substitute one that it approved. But the Canadian could do nothing. It had no vote, and it sent no member to parliament to represent it there. Canada merely waited until, for reasons of their own, British electors condemned the Government.

And the Canadian situation was a great deal worse than that, for a change of Government in the United Kingdom meant nothing to Canada. The new one was no more acceptable to Canada than its predecessor; for, Canadians having no votes, the attitude of the Ministers of the day was not affected by the elections. A change meant, merely, that a new man became Colonial Secretary—usually one who knew nothing about the Colonies. The old Colonial Office officials pursued the same old methods, and the same old despatches went out over the signature of a man, who lacked the experience of his predecessor. That was all.

Canadian opposition, therefore, was not directed against one or other of the political parties in the United Kingdom, but against the Colonial Office; and with that institution, Canada was in perpetual conflict over the great question of the right to govern Canadians.

Canada and the Colonial Office were engaged in a tug-of-war. Each was hauling at the end of a rope called "Government". At first Canada had but a precarious grip—she had few people and but a short piece of the rope. What she had, however, was well belayed