

There is nothing in common between a jealous and narrow nativism and a wise and liberal patriotism. In his great book on the American Commonwealth, Professor Bryce, despite what Mr. Frederic Harrison terms in the *Nineteenth Century* the "good-natured character of his criticisms," cannot but deplore, and does on most unanswerable grounds deplore the narrow spirit of localism which characterizes the people of the United States generally, in respect, especially, to their selection of candidates for Congress and State Legislatures. The broader spirit of British institutions has prevailed to make this tendency, so injurious in its wide-spread results, less prevalent in Canada. Nativism, however, in the sense of preferring an inferior Canadian to a good outsider, is nothing but localism, and it is difficult, in our view, to exaggerate its folly when applied to such appointments as the principalship of a law school or a professorship at a university. It is no answer to say that it is discouraging to Canadians to feel that they cannot secure such appointments. Those who are to be taught and their interests alone should be considered in such matters,—and in the long run assuredly Canadian talent will be more advanced by such positions being held by really able and accomplished men, than by their being given to men who, *ex hypothesi*, would never have received them on their own merits, but owe their selection to the prevalence of a spirit which it is one of the chiefest aims of intellectual cultivation to dissipate. It is scarcely probable that a thoroughly good local man can be found for the principalship of the law school. Those who study law at all in this country almost invariably enter as soon as possible upon the practical work, first of a solicitor, and afterwards of an advocate. Few, if any, attempt to spend much time on the study of abstract jurisprudence or the philosophy of law in any of its branches. The whole conditions of the situation are too obviously against such studies to need our dilating upon them. Our sister colony of Australia is no doubt situated very much as we are in this respect, and certainly if the people of the city of Melbourne had—as in fact they very recently had—to look to England for a professor of law at their university, it will be little surprise if we have to do the same thing. The condition of things in London in these matters is very much the reverse of what it is here. The Bar in England is crowded with men who have attended lengthy courses of lectures and, in some cases, taken the highest honours in the jurisprudence schools of one or other of two of the oldest, the wealthiest and the best equipped universities in the world; and who, in the dearth of practical work, have, after supplementing their university training by some years' attendance in Barrister's Chambers in the Inns of Court, recurred to those studies for which their academic training has given them a taste and an aptitude; and in all probability have exercised their pen in magazine articles and reviews. From the ever increasing body of such men in London, a professor for our law school might, with a little trouble, by enquiring in the proper quarters, be secured, especially if, in addition to the salary offered the privilege of Chamber practice was extended, as it very well might be. In a very short time such a man would make himself quite sufficiently acquainted with what may be termed the local side of our law, and we venture to say the Benchers would never regret having looked for their man to that portion of our empire,