

Norman and Breton stocks in the Province of Quebec. In the interior of the continent there are French and Scotch half-breeds, with their Indian blood and Indian habits. Then again, across on the Pacific coast there is a motley collection of English, Irish, Scotch and Canadian, with all their varied peculiarities. But the task of fusing and blending these various elements is much less difficult than it seems. Switzerland has carried its constitution safely through three European revolutions, yet, of its two-and-a-half millions, one-and-two-thirds speak German, one-half million, French, and the remainder, Italian and other tongues. No ;—the difficulty is not in the multitude of differences, real or fancied, that exists, but rather in finding some common basis of agreement strong enough to counteract disintegrating tendencies. Where are we to look for such a basis? In a work, lately published, an Englishman who paid us a visit, remarks that “to the Canadian it is of small concern what you think of his country. He has little of patriotic pride in it himself. Whatever pride of country a Canadian has, its object, for the most part, is outside of Canada.” And the writer, from whom we are quoting, goes on to assert that “whatever may be alleged to the contrary, the belief in the possibility of a separate future for Canada is steadily lessening among Canadians.” Is this true? True or not, there is certainly some ground to justify a casual visitor in such a conclusion. We have too many among us who are ever ready to worship a foreign Baal, to the neglect of their own tutelary gods. There are too many Cassandras in our midst ; too many who whimper over our supposed weakness and exaggerate others’ supposed strength. But there are those who do not despair of the State ; who are neither weak-kneed nor faint of heart ; who know that strength comes from within. There is a name I would fain approach