

is a good thing. Learn from Great Britain: but learn also, both as to matter and method *from the world*.

It will be a disadvantage to the young Canadian as a member of society if he grows up with the idea that the chief distinctions to be enjoyed are those which come across the sea from England. It will be of advantage to him to regard such distinctions as of exceedingly small account, even if they should be Knighthoods conferred by Her Gracious Majesty. Some of the Canadians who have been thus honored are worthy of very great respect; but we respected them just as much before they were known as *Sir This* and *Sir That*. But again, why should a man strut and swell *in Canada* because he is a half-pay officer of the British army, or because he is the son of a poor curate of an English parish, or because he has an aunt or uncle over there from whom he expects five hundred pounds? Is not Canadian worth, or Canadian blood, or Canadian money just as good as English? Why should there not be a little pride in Canada with respect to what is Canadian? Why should he be thought the distinguished person who can talk only of his English friends, and who tries to keep up rather senseless English customs, and who seems to have very little regard for the country which has given him a home? All honor to old England: but the superciliousness of some Canadians because they are a little more English than other Canadians is, to say the least of it, exceedingly silly, and serves to hinder the growth of a proper feeling in young Canadians regarding the land of their birth.

Once more it will be a disadvantage if the British traditions and the British connection operate to retard the growth of a national spirit in Canada. And may I say it frankly, a national spirit is a thing the existence of which in Canada I have failed to discover. The American Republic is full of it. In passing to and from the Canadian Dominion the difference in this regard is marked indeed. Where is the Canadian who is full of pride for his country? who foresees the political destiny of his country? who is satisfied with the commercial prosperity of his country? who foresees a rapid development of her resources? and who feels that his country's distinction and power are in herself and not in the fact that she is a dependency of the British Crown? And if this latter is Canada's chief distinction, viz., that she is a dependency of the British Crown, is she not beginning to be in the position of the