

language and having many of their leading institutions founded upon the same model as those of his own country, who have a world-wide reputation, and to whom the field for individual exertion is unbounded, and for whom the rewards of success are of the very first class. He there sees men of the humblest grade rising to a position which places them on a political level with the greatest potentates on earth: others attaining a world-wide fame as statesmen, as jurists, as diplomatists, and as military and naval officers. He sees the republic of the United States assuming, to itself exclusively, the title of "American," whilst its territory is inferior in extent, in resources, and in advantageous geographical position, to that portion of the continent to which he himself belongs. He knows that the flag of the United States is known and honoured, in every corner of the earth, as that of a nation which is considered a wonderful phenomenon for its great achievements in wealth and commercial prosperity; whilst British America, which, under all disheartening circumstances, has worked up to a position which makes her, in reality, "the third commercial power on earth," has no distinguishing rank, place, or even name, beyond her own borders. He knows the American Republic to be a familiar idea—its history, institutions, wealth, power, and future prospects intimately known—among communities who have never heard of the American Provinces; or who, if they have, think of them but as some barbarous deserts "on the outskirts of creation." On looking farther away, to the other independent nations of America and to the inferior States of Europe, he sees them, although inferior to British America in every point of view except the mere accident of distinct nationality, seated in the common wealth of nations, and their alliance courted by the greatest empires.

Turning to his native country, the contrast which he sees it present to each of these, and particularly to its republican neighbor, is not at all calculated to gratify his ambitious feelings, whether they are of a national, or merely personal, character. British America cannot receive that degree of foreign consideration to which, taken as an aggrega-

tion, it is, in strictness, entitled; because it cannot, in fact, be considered as an aggregation, but as a number of disconnected and mutually independent individuals, each of which, regarded separately, loses immeasurably by that contrast already mentioned. To be a British American, means nothing in the world's estimation; to be a Canadian, a New Brunswicker, or a Nova Scotian, is to be just the next thing to nothing.

On coming down to his own individual case, the British American finds the prospect not more cheering. The Provinces have but few prizes to offer, as rewards for honorable exertions in the higher walks of life. Those *honors* which, under established national organizations, furnish so powerful a stimulus to industry and talent, are here "few and far between;" and the few which are attainable, are so insignificant, as to be insufficient, in themselves, to satisfy the natural cravings of human nature for distinction. The very channels by which such *honors* are usually attained, are virtually closed against the American Colonist. True, he belongs to that great empire in which, as a general rule, talented exertion meets with more signal rewards than in any other; but he is far removed from the arenas on which those rewards are achieved; and practically, although not in theory, is excluded from the fountain head whence they proceed. Few feel the desire to enter any of those professions by which alone they can hope to attain a distinguished rank as *Britons*, in contradistinction to mere local rank; because, by doing so, they must necessarily turn their backs forever upon what they consider as more particularly their own country. Apart from this consideration, they know too well that they have the smallest chance of success. The British American Colonist believes—with how much reason, let others judge—that it would be next to madness for him to enter the British Army, or Navy, without that interest at head quarters—not possessed by one of his countrymen out of ten thousand—which is necessary to procure promotion even when it is honorably earned. A similar lack of patronage aids in deterring him from entering either of the English "learned profes-