

The vast amount of data concerning the old regime and the early days of British rule which has been brought to light by various students during the last ten years, renders the work of a critic very difficult, because much much of the material made use of by modern writers is not to be found in accepted channels. Three distinguished writers on historical subjects, Dr Ward, Master of Peterhouse ; Dr Prothero, formerly Professor of History in Edinburgh University ; and Stanley Leathes, Lecturer in Trinity College, evidently appreciated these difficulties with regard to European history, when they incorporated the following words in the preface to the Cambridge Modern History : " It has become impossible for the historical writer of the present ago to trust without reserve even to the most respected secondary authorities. The honest student finds himself continually deserted, retarded, misled by the classics of history, and has to hew his own way through multitudinous transactions, periodicals and official publications, in order to reach the truth ".

These remarks are applicable to Canadian history.

My critic apparently trusts too much to the classics of our history, but the time is not far distant when the history of Canada, both of the old and of the new regime, will undergo a complete revision, and steps are already being taken for the accomplishment of such a desirable work.

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