

qualification, and the extension of the elective franchise to universal suffrage, (subsequently modified),—the assumption of executive powers by the representative chamber, under the phrase of *responsible government*, with the relinquishment by the Imperial government of all interference in merely local questions. The origin and movements of the parties that came into existence among us in consequence of these organic changes, and the excitements attendant on them, are all within the personal recollection of many of us, and with which few stand wholly disconnected. Some have been more or less actors,—others as spectators sympathizing with the prominent characters on one side or the other in the various struggles. Differing widely in opinion, as is usually the case in public questions, it is nevertheless but reasonable as it is charitable to conclude, that, in general, however opposed to each other our citizens may have sometimes been, and however warm the emotions that impelled them in pursuit of their favorite objects, they were yet in the main (on each side) actuated by a desire for the good of the country; and it may be believed, and is certainly to be desired, that in general they may, one and all, (after the time that has elapsed), regard those whom they looked angrily on in former days with the respect ever due to upright intentions. The skill with which public questions have been managed,—the varied gifts displayed by the orators who have engaged the attention of our assembly and the public in these latter days, offer rich and varied materials to set off the narration of provincial history.

The celebration of the centenary festival of the Halifax colony in 1849 was indicative of the strong love of country and pride in its advancement that pervade the province, and is therefore a marked feature of moral progress.