

NOTE.

The present triumphal tour of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales through His Royal Mother, "the Empress of India's" great domain, recalls the fact, that Canada was the scene of H.R.H.'s first essay as a traveller, and the Canadian people were the first of the Queen's Colonial subjects honored by the great distinction of a visit from Royalty. As one who did not a little to bring about this event, the writer hopes he may be pardoned for putting on record, in the present shape, the evidence of his achievement, as some people have been pleased to call it. The writer regards the mission he volunteered to England in 1858—although knowing at the time that the lateness of the season would prevent a royal visit that year—as the happiest and most successful event of his life, and he naturally guards jealously the memorials of it. Since his arrival in Ottawa he has been repeatedly asked by friends for copies of the petition—which he could not supply, except in the present manner. As to the recommendation of the newspapers that he should receive some reward for his work in 1858, he would only remark, that as a Loyal Canadian he never asked for, nor does he expect any acknowledgement. To have contributed, in however slight a manner, towards the strength and unity of the grand old British Empire—the Mother of Nations—is to him a reward quite sufficient for what he did on the occasion referred to, and later on, in 1870, at the Union Convention at Yale. As this is the only occasion which he may have of speaking of the results of his visit to England, he avails himself of the opportunity of paying a humble but very sincere tribute to the departed statesman and man of letters, Lord Lytton, who was at the time at the head of the Colonial Office, as well as to the present head—Lord Carnarvon—then Under-Secretary. The writer can never forget the hearty kindness he experienced at the hands of these noblemen—noble by birth as well as by nature—and to them, perhaps, more than to anyone else, the writer has always felt, Canadians are mainly indebted for the Royal Tour that followed.

Ottawa, March, 1876.