

power, than by some outrageous proceeding, they create a reaction which hurls them down again to pave the way for the triumphant return of the Radicals—and the last state is worse than the first. Is this fact? "Ask of the years that are past and they will tell you!"

It requires wonderful little sagacity to perceive that as long as a course is pursued by our rulers which is narrow, illiberal and exclusive, they deprive themselves unavoidably of the confidence and support of the people—are, in a manner, compelled to form this unworthy, impolitic, and fatal alliance—they are drawn, or rather driven into a league with men of this kidney, the ultimate effect of which is, to establish "*Imperium in imperio*," investing these *worthies* with an ascendant influence—at least—in the Executive Department, and in the Legislative Council, composed as it has been, and still is, almost exclusively of the same elements. Nor is it to be wondered, if—with the natural and hereditary prepossessions which must be expected, more or less, to be inherent in men, who are themselves, with rare exceptions, of aristocratic birth and breeding, and therefore, not always without a tinge of the prejudices of their order,—our governors allow themselves to be carried too far, in their dread of—and antipathy to—the self-styled popular or liberal party, and are consequently prone to fall in too much with the equally selfish, and as we deem, even more dangerous designs, of their antagonists, in the contrary extreme.

Until very recently too, our governors have with rare exceptions, belonged to the military profession, and whatever may have been their merits in other respects, they have not inclined too much to the popular side. The maxims of their administration have savoured very little of the liberal or conciliatory spirit, which is essential, at least in our American Colonies, and among the very heterogeneous population subjected to their rule. Some of our governors, in addition to all this, have been high church men of the Orange school, bigots in religion, as well as in politics, and passive tools in the hands of Dr. Strachan, who, whatever may be his estimable qualities in private life, has, without all question, been the prime agent in creating all the discontents in the sister Province, and in neutralizing the natural tendency of things there, to promote a growing attachment of all classes of the population, to the Provincial and to the Parent Government; and—to produce general harmony, contentment and prosperity within the Colony. The venerable Archdeacon of Toronto, is, in our mind, a perfect reflexion, in his moral and political character, of the famous Archbishop Sharpe, and would make a capital subject for a graphic picture, such as Galt has drawn in his novels, of a *certain class of Scotsmen*, who, actuated by a pride and ambition, not of the noblest order, are extremely supple, shrewd, *canny* as well as active, persevering and indefatigable in their efforts to *get on*; that class who seek dignity and honor rather *from the world without than from the world within*; and inasmuch as self respect, independence, disinterestedness and an enlightened and enlarged spirit of liberality—purged to the uttermost from the tross of selfish, low ambition—are the qualities that form a wise and

\*See Note I.