

hundred years ago it could scarcely have found acceptance with any British statesman. The relation of the Colonists to their Mother Country founded on the feudal notion of inde-feasible personal allegiance was from the outset radically false, and was pretty sure to end in some catastrophe, such as that which produced a schism in our race, and for a century has made the two sections of it strangers, if not enemies, to each other. A quarrel which was the work of evil destiny, all right-minded men will study to bury and forget.

—Mr. D. B. Read's "Life and Times of Governor Simcoe" (Toronto: Geo. Virtue) opportunely appears at a time when, after the fashion of youthful communities in the New World, our people are beginning to look forward to the first centennial anniversary of the founding of Upper Canada. Unluckily for the biographer, there is not much material to make a book, at least as regards Simcoe's administration of affairs in the Province. The author has therefore had recourse to the Governor's military career during the Revolutionary War, while in command of the "Queen's Rangers," that notable, irregular corps, part infantry, part light horse, which did the King good service in the war with the insurgent colonists, and, later on, furnished material for the loyalist settlement of Upper Canada. To those already familiar with Simcoe's narrative of his campaigns, in 1778-81, this portion of the work will lack the interest of a fresh story, though probably few possess the "Journal." What there is to relate regarding the beginnings of civil government in Upper Canada, Mr. Read has related. Even the section dealing with this subject, however, has had to be eked out with a review of the incidents connected with the passing in the Imperial Parliament of the Constitutional Act of 1791, which set apart Upper Canada from the old French Province. Beyond this, the chief local interest centres in the brief chapters dealing with the "First Parliament of Upper Canada" and the "Establishing of the