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Of the indications of his character that have come to light since Cardinal Newman's death there is none more significant than the letter which represents him as saying Mass for the repose of Charles Kingsley's soul. Of all his controversial antagonists the rector of Eversley was the most unsparing of what he was disposed to regard as wilful recreancy on the part of the great Tractarian. He went so far as to charge him with dishonesty on the ground that it was morally impossible for him to believe what he professed to believe. Thus challenged, Dr. Newman took from his armory weapons more keen than the author of "Yeast" had ever encountered and wielded them with an adroitness which shivered his adversary's clumsier blade into pieces that wounded the assailant. Out of this dispute grew the famous *Apologia*. It is not without interest to us Canadians that both these distinguished men have special claims on our remembrance. Dr. Newman was in his early life the tutor of a young student of Exeter College, who was destined to become the first Metropolitan Bishop of the Anglican Church in Canada; and Dr. Fulford made his old teacher's spiritual autobiography the theme of one of his most remarkable addresses. Charles Kingsley, before his visit to Canada, wrote a letter to the *Gazette* of this city, in which occur these memorable passages: "Loyalty and patriotism are qualities on which I shall not compliment you. They seem to be native to Canadians; and it would be an impertinence on my part to praise you for possessing that which you would be ashamed to want. * * * But I must compliment you on the sound sense with which you are treating the question of the Reciprocity Treaty. * * * Let us also compliment you on the noble attitude which Canada is assuming at this moment, an attitude which you have (as far as I have read) always recommended; and it may be materially assisted by your gallant but moderate exhortations. England will be, now and henceforth, proud of her child, and all the more proud because in Canada seems to be solved at last that 'Irish problem' which has so sadly troubled us at home. As long as the system of politics and society carried out in Canada can convert such men as Mr. McGee (whom I mention with much respect) and can rally in support of the Throne and the Constitution thousands, not only of Protestant English and Scotch, but of Catholic French and Irish, Canada will be in a position which many a kingdom may well envy; and one which will surely, if she continues as she has begun, make her a mighty and a happy State."

M. Pierre Foncin, writing in the *Revue Bleue*, with the French-Canadian press for his text, has some pretty sharp things to say of his kindred on the banks of the St. Lawrence. Of course, he begins by paying tribute to "Curé Labelle, the great Canadian patriot of our time, the promoter

of all sorts of national enterprises." The mottoes with which some of our contemporaries announce their principles or avow their aspirations M. Foncin considers somewhat ostentatious—indeed, he uses a stronger term. He cites those of the *Canadien*, the *Courier du Canada*, of *La Justice*, of the *Journal des Trois Rivières*, and some other papers of this province, and then seeks some examples across the border. The latter seem a little puzzled occasionally as to the adjustment of their allegiance to Canada on the one hand and to the Republic on the other. A Plattsburgh paper, for instance, has two mottoes and a twofold emblem. "*E. Pluribus unum*" does homage evidently to the United States, while French Canada is commemorated by the words: "*Parare Domino plebem perfectam*" (to make ready for the Lord a people prepared for him). St. John and his customary Eagle, flanked by a beaver and a maple branch, symbolize the two communities whose interests the Plattsburgh *National* has undertaken to defend. There is a little confusion in this device, for St. John Baptist, not the Evangelist, is the patron saint of Canada. But the beaver and maple clear up any possible doubt as to the meaning of the emblem. M. Foncin has questioned his collection of newspapers very rigorously on the subject of their loyalty. He finds enough to assure him that the Canadians who have not crossed the border are well contented with British rule. The declaration of *l'Union Libérale* is unmistakably clear on that point: "We, French-Canadian Liberals, aspire to make of Canada a great country under the ægis of British institutions, which we love and admire." The expressions of opinion as to annexation are equally plain. Not only do the French papers of this province oppose such a policy, but many of the organs of the Canadian colonies in the United States are ranged on the same side. M. Foncin finds the language of our French papers somewhat marred by archaisms and anglicisms, but he is struck by their profoundly moral tone. The French-Canadian press fully appreciates its rôle as the educator of the people, yet in its morality, which is free from all tinge of hypocrisy, there is a wholesome freshness, a *naïveté*, that precludes neither good humour nor a certain spice of archness. But its most salient characteristics are love of country and devotion to the traditional faith.

In connection with the forestry conference, which has just been held at Quebec, it may be of interest to recall that as long ago as the summer of 1874, the British Commissioners of Woods and Forests instituted a comprehensive inquiry into the timber resources of all the colonies. A circular, containing a list of questions to be answered, was addressed to the proper authorities in every British colony from the largest self-governing dominion, like Canada, and the British possessions in Australasia, to small insular dependencies, like Bermuda and Labuan. The questions covered a broad range—the varieties of timber (botanical and local names), the ownership of the forest land, its extent, the increase or diminution of the timber, and in the latter case the probable cause, the quantity that could be cut without injury, the quantity actually cut, the proportion consumed at home and the proportion exported, the annual exports during the ten years preceding, and, if they showed a decrease, to what it might be ascribed, the character of the observations (if any) that had been made as to the influence of forests on climate, rainfall, floods, and other phenomena. It required four years to collect, arrange and publish the mass of varied information which formed the answers to these inquiries, and the data and the conclusions based upon them were most instructive. The investigation was first prompted by a discussion at the Institution of Surveyors which took place in March, 1874, on two papers relating to English timber. In the course of it the Hon. J. K. Howard, Commissioner of Woods, directed attention to the condition of the forests in foreign countries—especially France, a commission of whose National Assembly had recently issued a report on

the subject; and it was deemed that a series of like reports as to the forest wealth of the British possessions abroad—covering the ground already indicated—would be of value in checking the waste of all kinds, to which forest lands had been liable. Lord Carnarvon (then Colonial Secretary) took the matter earnestly up and the result was the inquiry. In the prefatory observations to the general report, the case of the Dominion is signalized as serving to illustrate the importance of the subject to which attention had been drawn. At that time (1878) Quebec was the only province that had taken any steps to check wanton waste and to prevent fires. In none of the provinces had measures been adopted to secure the replanting of cleared areas, notwithstanding enormous and growing consumption. More than 87½ per cent of Ontario's annual cut of timber was exported, and it was considered strange that nothing had been done to prevent the exhaustion of a commodity of such paramount commercial importance. In Nova Scotia the yearly cut exceeded by 25 per cent what it ought to be to preclude permanent injury to the forests, while in Prince Edward Island "the amount annually cut exceeds nearly 17 times the quantity which would represent a prudent rate of consumption." Of all the provinces British Columbia alone offered a supply of any considerable magnitude for the future wants of the trade, and though it was represented as inexhaustible by the local authorities, it was considered probable that if the whole strain of the demand were thrown on that province, in a few years a perceptible inroad would be made on the stock of timber in the accessible parts of British Columbia.

In the other parts of the Empire, the report was equally emphatic as to the need of prompt retrenchment. In some of the small colonies the timber areas had been absolutely denuded. In the larger colonies, like Australia and South Africa, though the country still yielded abundance of timber, it was practically out of reach of the communities where it was needed for consumption, that of the intermediate areas having been all cut down. Already, both in Victoria and South Africa, the disappearance of the available supply had begun to be severely felt. In Australia something had been done towards conservation and renewal, and it had been fairly demonstrated that by means of nurseries of young trees and the organization and operation of an energetic forestry department, much might be done in the work of restoration. The supineness of apparently strong governments contemplating with indifference the gradual extermination of such a source not merely of wealth, but of health, was sharply animadverted on. In some cases what was virtually a meteorological revolution had been caused by the disappearance of the trees. Streams regarded as perennial had run dry and the periodicity of the rainfall had been seriously disturbed. On the whole, it was impossible to resist the conclusion that whatever gains might follow the throwing of a little more forest land into cultivation were largely forfeited by the lowered fertility and deranged climatic equilibrium of the whole district. The subject was regarded as one of Imperial concern, calling for immediate and well considered action on the part of the British Government. Whether and to what extent the advice of the report was adopted we are not aware. We know that after its publication a vigorous impulse, which is still felt, was given in England to the study of forestry; that valuable treatises were written on forest economy, and that even periodicals were started to keep the public attention awake to its importance. But the practical results have, we fear (even while admitting that something has been accomplished), fallen lamentably short of what the situation seemed to demand. We hope that, as far as Canada is concerned, good fruit will be derived from the Quebec conference.

A year ago on the 1st of August a novel experiment in the adjustment of railway fares went into operation in the Kingdom of Hungary, and an