

Windsor. From the distance at which we lie from the centre of her mighty empire, we cannot enjoy exactly the same political institutions as her Yorkshire and Middlesex subjects. We are compelled to have a Parliament of our own to manage our local affairs, and a Representative of her Royalty has to wield some of her authority and prerogative, the honoured medium through which the light of her sovereignty shines on her faithful lieges. But with this exception—a difference more in name than in deed—we stand on the same broad foundation of popular right and privilege as the denizens of the British Isles. No claim, no immunity, no birthright of liberty can be claimed by one of the latter to which we cannot substantially attain. No case of oppression or personal wrong can possibly occur, in which the sufferer cannot at once appeal to the same all-powerful and ever ready protectors of life, character, and property, the laws and constitution of England, with the same facility and certainty of redress that would greet the residents within the very shadow of Westminster Hall, or within hearing of the independent voices of Saint Stephen's.

But tear down the "Meteor flag" from the rocky crest of Cape Diamond; strike it by the waters of St. Clair, the rapids of the Niagara, and the pine forests of Toronto; let the last voice of a British trumpet ring through the cliffs of the St. Lawrence, as the last of her recalled soldiery floats down that lordly river;—and in what condition is Canada left? She has two courses—one to endeavour to maintain a stand as a free nation; the second, to add another star and stripe to the motley banner of the neighbouring Republic. Should the first be her choice, necessity would immediately order the equipment of a sufficient land and naval establishment to protect the young state—to save the infant empire from being strangled in the cradle. A tenth of the force now gratuitously employed by England, for the defence of her North American sovereignty, could not be maintained by independent Canada for twelve months, without increasing tenfold the taxation of every individual in her bounds. Now, she enjoys ample protection for nothing; then she would have it, unstable and doubtful at all times, at a cost fearful and overwhelming to a country of her slender population and undeveloped resources. The rending of her ancient allegiance might be gilded by the flash and transient glitter of a new order of things; her independent existence might float awhile on the restless waves of a hasty popular enthusiasm; it might spring up in the air with the fierce bound of the fire-work, "rising like the rocket, but falling like the staff;" but when the temporary fever subsided, and men came to reflect on what they had abandoned and what they had gained, it needs but little gift of prophecy to foresee the fearful responsibility which the country would have taken from her parent and placed on her own young shoulders, or to tell that the fatal and increasing burden of a public debt, necessarily incurred, and incurred abroad, must weigh down her energies, and draw heavily on the slender means of the struggling husbandman, to ensure to him that protection without which his life would be embittered by perpetual anxieties, his property the prey of the bandit or the pirate, and he himself like the wretched peasant of the dark ages, constantly called on to spring to arms at some sudden alarm of insurrection or invasion—his hand alternately on the broad-sword and the plough, and defensive weapons his inseparable companions at his ordinary rural avocations.

The Literature of a New Country is another splendid article, rich in original and striking thoughts, explaining the position in which we at present are, and the causes which of necessity make us so little known in the world of literature, and pointing to a future, neither improbable nor distant, when a more elevated position may be taken in the Republic of Letters by the Colonial World. From this article we make a very short extract:—

Fancy and Fiction, with the filmy offspring of their fantastic dreamings, have but little to do with the matter of fact, sober, plodding routine of Colonial existence. Public business interferes with their development; popular taste asks for a coarser but more palatable stimulus; acquisitiveness despises, prejudice sneers at them. But with the altered circumstances of this rapidly improving country, these exotics may yet flourish. We are told, that when the early settlers first planted some of the fruit trees of their native land in their Canadian gardens, they blossomed at the period to which they were accustomed in the European spring. The frosts of this severe climate soon withered their untimely efflorescence, but the vegetable instinct soon suited its operations to its changed circumstances, and after one or two more seasons had given experience to the strangers, they became perfectly acclimated, and blossomed and bore fruit as freely as if born in the rude soil to which nature so beautifully adapted them.

So will it be with literature and the arts in our new country. Now they are strangers totally unknown, or introduced and planted but to wave and shiver in the cold blast of our rude climate. Like the transplanted fruit trees, they too may acclimate themselves, and a golden harvest reward the exertions of the fostering hands that cultivated and cherished them.

Years, too, cannot pass over, without changing the face of the country itself. Its natural roughness must disappear before the march of improvement; its now inclement skies will moderate their rigours; and as great a physical amelioration must be in store for the Canadas, as that which has converted the cold and stormy regions described of old by Tacitus, into the fair and smiling fields of modern Germany.

With this imperfect notice of the first number of the *Review*, we cordially commend it to the patronage of the public. It is published in Toronto, at the office of the *British Colonist* newspaper,—very handsomely printed, in a style nearly resembling the *Garland*, although in a larger type. The terms are very moderate—four dollars per annum, payable half-yearly in advance.