

the table. I took it up and called the attention of my friend Steele to its perfect workmanship; and as the flint was a very superior one, I wished to exhibit to him the quantity of vivid fire it would emit. I held the muzzle to his breast; my fore finger was on the trigger. As I pulled it, I at the same time turned the weapon from him as a general rule of precaution, not that I believed it to be loaded; but to my utter consternation, the pistol went off and lodged a ball in the cornice of the room. Had I not turned the weapon from him, he must have been shot dead. The fact is, that the Americans, I have no doubt, had loaded it to shoot the sentry and escape to the woods, which would have restored them to freedom, as there were plenty of American settlers in and about Chippewa, who would aid them in various ways to make good their retreat, and safe return to their homes and families.

A CANADIAN VETERAN.

A New Northern Nation.

IN the division of labor among Nations, the all-wise Master of life, seems to have apportioned to each, some peculiar tasks and duties, which no other could so well undertake or perform. Thus Egypt treasured for Europe, the mysterious learning of the elder world; thus Greece became the artist, and Rome the organizer of the earlier states, of which history preserves for us the recollection.

Nationality is, viewed in this light, originality. It is the successful assertion by a people, either insular or continental, of a set of political principles of their own—or, at least the successful establishment of an original combination of such principles. This originality of character in a people, energetically maintained, crowned by success in their early and after life as a people, makes them bold, liberal, enterprising, enduring, tolerant, generous, and just. It gives dignity to the individual, lustre to the age, and history to the country. It is that prize for which wise men meditate, and brave men cheerfully lay down their lives.—Poets arise who celebrate its glories, orators who expound its blessings, and priests who mediate with Providence, for its preservation and perpetuity.

Is it desirable—is it possible—that there should arise in the new world a British-American nationality? Have this people the original