

excellent Mayor is certainly no party man, in a political sense. We imagine that he owed his triumphant election to the Liberals far more than to the Conservatives. It cannot, therefore, be supposed that he uttered those words of warning with any political motive, but only with the patriotic desire of standing up for his country. It will be far better for any who may feel themselves smitten by his words, to remove the cause than to complain of the blow. "Faithful are the wounds of a friend."

We are not quite sure that the Commercial Unionists are, as a body, open to the charge of speaking disparagingly or despondently of the present or the future of Canada; and the fact that we do not entirely agree with them makes us more anxious to do them justice. Undoubtedly some among them are ready to declare that Commercial Union with the States is absolutely necessary for the future prosperity of the Dominion; but others are more moderate, and are contented to assure us that we should be better off if we had Commercial Union with the States.

The truth of the matter is that some of us would be better off, and some of us worse. It is too often forgotten, in speculating upon these changes, that a law which affects favourably one or more classes in the community does not necessarily benefit all; and then, ultimately it might turn out that the class immediately benefited might not really be so in the long run, while a great many other classes would not be benefited at all. Has Canada, upon the whole, gained or lost by the National Policy? This is a question which will probably be answered diversely; but it must be remembered that even ardent Free Traders are agreed that protection is a good thing in the infancy of a country, as giving new industries a fair field. Of course, that would not prove that protection should be continued, and that is a question which must be discussed and settled on its own grounds.

To many reasonable persons it does seem that Commercial Union would not only be a measure too sweeping in its effects, but also that it would ultimately lead to annexation. Now, at the present moment, there is not even a minority in Canada desirous of union with the States. Our history is different, our institutions are far from being identical, and, rightly or wrongly, we have got the notion that it is better for us to develop freely, according to our own national tendencies, instead of being absorbed into the greater nationality on the other side. It may be said that this is a matter of sentiment; but then sentiment rules mankind. It may seem to us very unnecessary that Belgium should maintain an existence separate from France. One can hardly imagine any harm coming to it from union, or any good being obtained through its independent existence. Yet the majority of Belgians are by no means inclined to become the inhabitants of a French Province or Department; and we fancy that Commercial Union has never been seriously proposed to them. We are by no means insensible to the arguments of the Unionists, and the inhabitants of the Maritime Provinces seem to have something like a case against the Dominion. But it seems to us that the right thing to do is to have some form of Reciprocity. Certain articles might be free on both sides, or certain products might be admitted freely on the one side while certain other articles might be admitted on the other side. It is said that the Americans will have none of this, that they will have Commercial Union, or nothing. But who has a right to say this? Who has a right to say that they are ready to adopt Commercial Union, or that they would reject every form of Reciprocity? The question has not yet been formally brought before their legislative assembly, and until this has been done it is somewhat presumptuous to lay down the conditions upon which they will deal with us.

One very gratifying fact has become conspicuous during the recent Jubilee celebration—the attachment of Canada to the British Empire. And by this we do not mean merely to the British connexion, but to the greatness of the old country. A little while ago a good many persons on this side who professed to have the greatest loyalty to the English Crown and the strongest desire for retaining our connexion with the Empire, permitted themselves to speak in the most free and easy manner of the dismemberment of the Empire at home. They were quite ready to give Ireland Home Rule, and Scotland and Wales the same, without considering whether they really wanted it, or what was meant by the proposal for Home Rule. It is with much satisfaction that we mark the change of tone on this subject. It is not quite easy to say how it has been brought about. Professor Goldwin Smith and his Loyal and Patriotic Union have had something to do with it. Mr. O'Brien has given considerable help, in a different way, by compelling people on this side to reflect on the nature of the Home Rule which was demanded. No doubt the Jubilee celebrations have done something. We are all a little like Mr. Pickwick, who gave counsel to an uncertain politician that he should shout with the biggest crowd. At present, by far the biggest crowd is for "God Save the Queen," and "Rule Britannia." But there is something deeper than

this. People are beginning to see the real meaning of the Irish Home Rule movement,—that, in the form of Messrs. Parnell and Gladstone, it means separation—this, and nothing less; and they know what that means to the loyal inhabitants of Ireland, and to the place of Great Britain among the nations.

Upon the whole, the patriotic party, who place the country above faction, have at the present moment a good deal to be thankful for. Let the speech of our kind Mayor be disseminated and studied by our people, and the handful of malcontents who are continually decrying and belittling their country will soon lose their influence.

MENTAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN.

THE struggle for the prizes in the world's race between the two sexes is one that is every year more keenly contested, as the educational advantages which place them nearer to the same intellectual level increase. In Toronto opportunities for mental improvement among women have been so largely facilitated by the action of the University, in admitting them to their curriculum, that an abstract from the article which appeared in the *Nineteenth Century*, from the pen of so distinguished a psychologist as Professor George J. Romanes, may not prove unacceptable, dealing as it does exclusively with the subject of the unequal distribution of brain power in the masculine and feminine organisations.

In the "Descent of Man" Mr. Darwin has shown at length that what Hunter termed secondary sexual character occurs throughout the whole animal series. It is shown physically in the duller plumage of the feathered tribe, and the hornless condition of the mammals, and mentally most strongly, of course, in the male and female sex. I will now, therefore, briefly enumerate what appear to me the leading features of this distinction, in the case of mankind adopting the ordinary classification of mental faculties, as those of intellect, emotion, and will. Seeing that the average brain weight of women is about five ounces less than that of men, on merely anatomical grounds we should be prepared to expect a marked inferiority of intellectual power in the former. In actual fact we find that the inferiority displays itself most conspicuously in a comparative absence of originality, and this more especially in the higher levels of intellectual work. In her powers of acquisition the woman certainly stands nearer to the man than she does in her powers of creative thought, although even as regards the former there is a marked difference. Whether we look to the general average or to the intellectual giants of both sexes, we are similarly met with the general fact that a woman's information is less wide and deep and thorough than that of a man. What we regard as a highly cultured woman is usually one who has read largely but superficially, and even in the few instances that can be quoted of extraordinary female industry—which on account of their rarity stand out as exceptions to prove the rule—we find a long distance between them and the much more numerous instances of profound erudition among men. As musical executants, however, I think that equality may be fairly asserted. It is in original work, as already observed, that the disparity is most conspicuous. For it is a matter of ordinary comment that in no one department of creative thought can women be said to have at all approached men, save in fiction. Yet in poetry, music, and painting, if not also in history, philosophy, and science, the field has always been open to both. With regard to judgment, too, I think there can be no real question that the female mind stands considerably below the male. It is much more apt to take superficial views of circumstances calling for decision, and also to be guided less by impartiality. Undue influence is more frequently exercised from the side of the emotions, and in general all the elements which go to constitute what is understood by a characteristically judicial mind are of comparatively feeble development. Of course here, as elsewhere, I am only speaking of average standards, as must always be borne in mind. It would be easy to find multitudes of instances where women display better judgment than men; but that, as a general rule, their judgment is inferior has been a matter of universal recognition from the earliest times.

If woman, however, has been the loser in the intellectual race as regards acquisition, origination, and judgment, she has gained even on the intellectual side certain very conspicuous advantages. First among these we must place refinement of the senses or higher evolution of the sense organs; next we must place rapidity of perception, both these arising from a greater refinement of nervous organisation. Now rapidity of perception leads to rapidity of thought, and this finds expression in what is apt to appear as almost intuitive insight, and, on the other hand, in that nimbleness of mother wit which is usually so noticeable, and so often so brilliant, an endowment of the feminine intelligence, whether it displays itself in tact, in repartee, or in the general alacrity of a vivacious mind.

Turning, however, to the emotions, we find that in woman as contrasted with man these are less under the control of her will—more apt to break away, as it were, from the restraint of reason, and to overwhelm the mental chariot with disaster. Whether this tendency displays itself in the overwhelming form of hysteria, or in the more ordinary form of comparative childishness, ready annoyance, and a generally unreasonable temper, in whatever form this supremacy of emotion displays itself, we recognise it as more of a feminine than a masculine characteristic. Coyness and caprice are very general peculiarities of the female sex, and we may add, as kindred traits, personal vanity, fondness of display, and delight in the sunshine of admiration. According to Mr. Lecky, they are commonly superior in the courage of endurance, but their passive courage is not so much fortitude