

COLONIAL.

NOVA SCOTIA.

AN ADDRESS DELIVERED BEFORE THE
HALIFAX MECHANICAL INSTITUTE,
November 5, 1834.

AFTER a season of unexampled trial to this Community,* and of anxious solicitude to us all, it is with no ordinary feelings of pleasure that I open this fourth Course of Lectures to the Institute. Although, since we last met, some of us may have lost relatives and friends; still, when I find so full an attendance of my brother Members—when I see around me so many familiar faces, I cannot but feel that the most appropriate sentiment for me to utter, and that to which your hearts will most cheerfully respond, is one of gratitude to Him, through whose sparing mercy we are again permitted to assemble to tread the paths of Science; and attain, through a right use of the means which he has placed within our reach, some knowledge of the wonders created by his hand, and of the laws by which they are controlled.

It is our practice, in these opening Addresses without confining ourselves to any particular subject, to touch upon the past history and future prospects of the Institute; to take a discursive range over the wide fields of Literature and Science, for illustrations of the value of such societies—to build each other up in the love of knowledge—to cheer each other on in that course of improvement which has been so successfully commenced. As this duty usually devolves upon your Office Bearers, and as, for many reasons, it is my wish and my intention to fall back into the ranks at the close of the present year, I shall avail myself of this occasion, to impress strongly upon your minds some general views that have long been forming in my own—and which I would fain leave among you ere I retire from the Chair.

The abstract or cosmopolitan idea of Knowledge is, that it is of no country—the world of Science and of Letters comprises the learned and the ingenious of every clime; whose intellects, reflecting back the light which each in turn bestows, serve to illuminate and cheer the dark places of the earth, and roll off the mists which ignorance and prejudice have gathered around the human mind. To benefit his whole race, and to earn universal applause, are the first great stimulants of the student and philosopher; but the all-wise Being, who divided the earth into continents, peninsulas and islands—who separated tribes from each other by mountain ranges and unfathomable seas—who gave a different feature and a different tongue, evidently intended that there should be a local knowledge and a local love, binding his creatures to particular spots of the earth, and interesting them peculiarly for the prosperity, improvement and happiness of those places. The love of country, therefore, though distinguished from this universal love, boasts of an origin as divine, and serves purposes scarcely less admirable. It begets a generous rivalry among the nations of the earth, by which the intellectual and physical resources of each are developed, and strengthened by constant exercise; and although sometimes abused by ignorance or criminal ambition, has a constant direction favorable to the growth of knowledge, and the amelioration and improvement of human affairs.

Is that feeling alive in your breasts? Is it abroad in this country? Has Nova-Scotia received the power to attach her children to her bosom, and make them prouder and fonder of her bleak hills and sylvan vallies, than even of the fairer and more cultivated lands from which their parents came? I pause for no reply—the unerring law of nature is my answer; and though addressing an audience composed of all countries, it is with the conviction, that their children are already natives of Nova-Scotia, and that their judgments will approve of the direction I wish to give to those feelings of patriotism which that circumstance will inevitably inspire. You who owe your origin to other lands, cannot resist the conviction, that as you loved them, so will your children love this; and that though the second place in their hearts may be filled by merry England, romantic Scotland, or the verdant fields of Erin, the first and highest will be occupied by the little Province where they drew their earliest breath, and which claims, from them filial reverence and care.

Far be it from me to wish, on this occasion, to draw national distinctions. I desire rather to show you how the certainty that your descendants will be

*From the Cholera, and commercial embarrassments.

one race, having a common attachment to Nova-Scotia, and knowing no higher obligation than to love and honor her, ought to draw you closer to each other in friendly union, and make you solicitous to give that direction to their minds which shall best secure their happiness, and promote the welfare of their common country.

I must confess that, at a first glance, the youthful native of Nova-Scotia would seem to require more than an ordinary share of amor patrie, to justify much pride at the present condition of his country—or to inspire any ardent hope of her future prosperity and renown. He sees her the least in population and extent in the whole range of a mighty continent; and without reference to the glorious nations of the old world, but a child in resources and improvement, as compared with the States and Provinces by which she is more immediately surrounded; and upon which the signs of a manhood, vigorous and advanced, are already deeply impressed. He may love her, but can he hope to render her conspicuous among such competitors?—to raise her up to the level which they may, without any very extraordinary efforts, attain? To the South and West a more generous sun warms a more fertile soil into a higher measure of fruitfulness and beauty than nature bestows on him; and to the North, he finds countries which, from their geographical extent and earlier settlement, have a greater command of resources—are already greatly in advance—and seem destined to leave Nova-Scotia far behind in the race of improvement; and to merge, in their own mental effulgence, the feeble light of science which even ardent patriotism may kindle upon her soil.

Turning from Virginia, with her 66,000 square miles, covered with flourishing towns and more than a million of population—from New York, with her magnificent rivers, princely cities, and two millions of people—from Massachusetts, with her extensive borders crowded with activity and intelligence—from the Canadas, with their national dimensions, great natural resources, and rapidly increasing population—to our own little Province, hemmed in by the Atlantic and its Bays, and presenting an outline as comparatively insignificant as her numbers, we may be pardoned if, at times, the desire to elevate and adorn our native land, is borne down by a sense of the competition we must encounter, and the apparent hopelessness of the task.

Many a time has my own mind sunk under a sense of these inequalities; and if I present them thus broadly to you, it is because I wish to show you how I have learned to overcome them; and, as it were, to consult you upon the possibility of rendering them a source of excitement, rather than of depression, to the generation now rising around us.

With Nations, as with Individuals, much depends upon the principles and resolves with which they set out, and the strength of their determination to surmount the untoward accidents of birth; and, command, by energy and perseverance, the honors and rewards which circumstances would seem to have denied. The conviction of this truth prompts the utterance of sentiments on this occasion, that many may regard as far fetched and premature—but which, after long and painfully revolving our present condition and future prospects, I feel it my duty to express. And something tells me, that although from the feeble manner in which they are urged, these views and opinions may now be held in slight esteem, a time shall come, when they will, with the genius and ability of a ripper and more cultivated age, be infused into the minds of my countrymen, and stimulate them in their love of knowledge, and their pursuit of an honorable name.

We constantly see Individuals, of good natural capacity, and superior opportunities and advantages, outstripped in the pursuit of influence and distinction, by those who, viewing the point from which they started, would appear to have had, in the paths of emulation, hardly any chance. We see the poor, but persevering and industrious man, accumulate wealth, and purchase extensive domains, while, by the idle and the dissolute, the most ample fortunes are wasted; and these examples are seldom lost on those by whom they are carefully observed. Though an accident may bring wealth or reduce us to poverty, we know, by a comparison of many facts, that in nine cases out of ten these result from the possession of certain qualities, and the exercise or neglect of peculiar powers. Hence the poor and the wise man derives lessons of encouragement; and if the estate of the rich landlord spreads its countless acres beyond his narrow field, or if the spacious palace overtops his humble store, his spirit is not depressed, but

borrow strength and energy from the view of that affluence he determines to attain. (To be continued.)

AMERICA.

UNITED STATES.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate, and House of Representatives: Our foreign relations continue, with but few exceptions, to maintain the favorable aspect which they bore in my last annual message, and promise to extend those advantages which the principles that regulate our intercourse with other nations are so well calculated to secure.

It becomes my unpleasant duty to inform you that this pacific and highly gratifying picture of our foreign relations, does not include those with France at this time. It is not possible that any Government and people could be more sincerely desirous of conciliating a just and friendly intercourse with another nation, than are those of the United States with their ancient ally and friend. This disposition is founded as well on the most grateful and honorable recollections associated with our struggle for independence, as upon a well grounded conviction that it is consonant with the true policy of both. The people of the United States could not, therefore, see without the deepest regret, even a temporary interruption of the friendly relations between the two countries—a regret which would, I am sure, be greatly aggravated if there should turn out to be any reasonable ground for attributing such a result to any act of omission or commission on our part. I derive, therefore, the highest satisfaction from being able to assure you that the whole course of this Government has been characterized by a spirit so conciliatory and forbearing as to make it impossible that our justice and moderation should be questioned, whatever may be the consequences of a longer perseverance on the part of the French Government in her omission to satisfy the conceded claims of our citizens.

The history of the accumulated and unprovoked aggressions upon our commerce, committed by authority of the existing Governments of France, between the years 1800 and 1817, has been rendered too painfully familiar to Americans to make its repetition either necessary or desirable. It will be sufficient here to remark, that there has, for many years, been scarcely a single administration of the French Government by whom the justice and legality of the claims of our citizens to indemnity, were not, to a very considerable extent, admitted; and yet near a quarter of a century has been wasted in ineffectual attempts to secure it.

The treaty was duly ratified in the manner prescribed by the constitutions of both countries and the ratification was exchanged at the city of Washington on the 2d of January, 1822. On account of its commercial stipulations it was, in five days thereafter laid before the Congress of the United States, which proceeded to enact such laws favorable to the commerce of France as were necessary to carry it into full execution; and France has, from that period to the present, been in the unrestricted enjoyment of the valuable privileges that were thus secured to her. The faith of the French nation having been thus solemnly pledged, through its constitutional organ, for the liquidation and ultimate payment of the long deferred claims of our citizens, as also for the adjustment of other points of great reciprocal benefit to both countries, and the United States having with a fidelity and promptitude by which their conduct will, I trust, be always characterized, done every thing that was necessary to carry the treaty into full and fair effect on their part, counted with the most perfect confidence, on equal fidelity and promptitude on the part of the French Government. In this reasonable expectation we have been, I regret to inform you, wholly disappointed. No legislative provision has been made by France for the execution of the treaty, either as it respects the indemnity to be paid, or the commercial benefits to be secured to the United States, and the relations between the United States and that power, in consequence thereof, are placed in a situation threatening to interrupt the good understanding which has so long and so happily existed between the two nations.

The refusal to vote the appropriation, the news of which was received from our Minister in Paris, about the 15th day of May last, might have been considered the final determination of the French government not to execute the stipulations of the treaty, and would have justified an immediate communication of the facts to Congress, with a recommendation of such ultimate measures as the interest and honor of the United States might seem to require. But with the news of the refusal of the Chambers to make the appropriation, were conveyed the regrets of the King, and a declaration that a national vessel should be forthwith sent out, with instructions to the French Minister to give the most ample explanations of the past, and the strongest assurances for the future. After a long passage the promised despatch vessel arrived. The pledge given by the French Minister, upon receipt of his instructions, were, that as soon after the election of the new members as the charter would permit, the legislative Chambers of France should be called together, and the proposition for an appropriation laid before them; that all the constitutional powers of the King and his Cabinet should be exerted to accomplish the object; and that the result should be made known early enough to be communicated to Congress at the commencement of the

present session. Relying upon these pledges and not doubting that the acknowledged justice of our claims, the promised exertions of the King and his Cabinet, and, above all, that sacred regard for the national faith and honor for which the French character has been so distinguished, would secure an early execution of the treaty in all its parts, I did not deem it necessary to call the attention of Congress to the subject at the last Session.

I regret to say, that the pledges made through the Minister of France have not been redeemed.

The executive branch of this government has, as matters stand, exhausted all the authority upon the subject with which it is invested, and which it had any reason to believe could be beneficially employed.

The idea of acquiescing in the refusal to execute the treaty will not, I am confident, be for a moment entertained by any branch of this government; and further negotiation is equally out of the question.

If it shall be the pleasure of Congress to await the further action of the French Chambers, no further consideration of the subject will, at this season, probably be required at your hands. But if, from the original delay in asking for an appropriation from the refusal of the Chambers to grant it when asked, from the omission to bring the subject before the Chambers at their last session, from the fact that, including the session, there have been five different occasions when the appropriation might have been made, and from the delay in convoking the Chambers until some weeks after the meeting of Congress, it was well known that a communication of the whole subject to Congress at the last session was prevented by assurances that it should be disposed of before its present meeting, you should feel yourselves constrained to doubt whether it be the intention of the French Government in all its branches to carry the treaty into effect, and think that such measures as the occasion may be deemed to call for, should be now adopted, the important question arises what those measures shall be.

Our institutions are essentially pacific. Peace and friendly intercourse with all nations, are as much the desire of our government as they are the interests of our People. But these objects are not to be permanently secured, by surrendering the rights of our citizens, or permitting solemn treaties for their indemnity in case of flagrant wrong, to be abrogated or set aside.

It is undoubtedly in the power of Congress seriously to affect the agricultural and manufacturing interests of France, by the passage of laws relating to her trade with the United States. Her products, manufactures, and tonnage, may be subjected to heavy duties in our ports, or all commercial intercourse with her may be suspended. But there are powerful, and to my mind, conclusive objections to this mode of proceeding. We cannot embarrass or cut off the trade of France, without, at the same time, in some degree embarrassing or cutting off our own trade. The injury of such a warfare must fall, though unequally upon our own citizens, and could not but impair the means of the Government, and weaken that united sentiment in support of the rights and honour of the nation which must now pervade every bosom.

Since France, in violation of the pledges given through her minister here, has delayed her final action so long that her decision will not probably be known in time to be communicated to this Congress, I recommend that a law be passed, authorizing reprisals upon French property, in case provisions shall not be made for the payment of the debt, at the approaching session of the French Chambers. Such a measure ought not to be considered by France as a menace. Her pride and power are too well known to expect anything from her fears, and preclude the necessity of a declaration that nothing partaking of the character of intimidation is intended by us. She ought to look upon it as the evidence only of an inflexible determination on the part of the United States to insist on their rights. That Government, by doing only what it has itself acknowledged to be just, will be able to spare the United States the necessity of taking redress in their own hands, and save the property of French citizens from that seizure and sequestration which American citizens so long endured without retaliation or redress. If she should continue to refuse that act of acknowledged justice, and in violation of the law of nations, make reprisals on our part the occasion of hostilities against the United States, she would but add violence to injustice and could not fail to expose herself to the just censure of civilized nations, and the retributive judgments of Heaven.

Collision with France is the more to be regretted, on account of the position she occupies in Europe in relation to liberal institutions. But in the maintaining our national rights and honour, all Governments are alike to us. If by a collision with France, in a case where she is clearly in the wrong, the march of liberal principles shall be impeded, the responsibility of that result, as well as every other, will rest on her own head.

Having submitted these considerations, it belongs to Congress to decide, whether, after what has taken place, it will still await the further action of the French Chambers, or now adopt such provisional measures as it may deem necessary and best adapted to protect the rights and maintain the honour of the country. Whatever that decision may be, it will be faithfully enforced by the Executive, as far as he is authorized so to do.

There is but one point in the controversy, and upon that the whole civilized world must pronounce France to be in the wrong. We insist that she shall pay us a sum of

money, which she has acknowledged to be due; and of the justice of this demand, there can be but one opinion among mankind. True policy seems to dictate that the question at issue should be kept thus disencumbered, and that not the slightest pretence should be given to France to persist in her refusal to make payment, by any act on our part affecting the interest of her people. The question should be left as it is now, in such an attitude that when France fulfils her treaty stipulations, all controversy will be at an end.

It is my conviction, that the United States ought to insist on a prompt execution of the treaty, and in case it be refused, or longer delayed, take redress into their own hands. After the delay on the part of France of a quarter of a century in acknowledging these claims by treaty, it is not to be tolerated that another quarter of a century is to be wasted in negotiating about the payment. The laws of nations provide a remedy for such occasions. It is a well settled principle of the international code, that where one nation owes another a liquidated debt, which it refuses or neglects to pay, the aggrieved party may seize on the property belonging to the other, its citizens or subjects, sufficient to pay the debt, without giving just cause of war. This remedy has been repeatedly resorted to, and recently by France herself, towards Portugal, under circumstances less unquestionable.

December 1, 1834.

ROYAL GAZETTE.

FREDERICTON, DECEMBER 24, 1834.

Central Bank OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

HENRY G. CLOPPER, Esq. President.
Director next week, Geo. J. Dibble, Esq.
Discount Day, - - THURSDAY.
Bills or Notes offered for Discount, must be lodged with the Cashier before three o'clock on TUESDAY. To avoid delay.

SAVING'S BANK.

Trustees for { HENRY G. CLOPPER, Esq.
next week, { JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.
{ MR. PETER FISHER.

ALMS HOUSE AND WORK HOUSE.
Commissioner for { D. L. ROBINSON, Esq.
next week.



By Authority.

By His Excellency Major General Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL, Baronet, G. C. B. Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New Brunswick, &c. &c.

ARCH. CAMPBELL.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS the General Assembly of this Province has been summoned to meet at Fredericton on Monday, the fifth Day of January next, I have thought fit to prorogue the said General Assembly, and the same is hereby prorogued to TUESDAY the Twentieth Day of January next, then to meet at Fredericton for the despatch of Business.

Given under my Hand and Seal at Fredericton, the Seventeenth Day of December, in the Year of Our Lord One thousand eight hundred and thirty four, and in the Fifth Year of His Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,
WM. F. ODELL.

NEW SERIES.

| List of Warrants payable on demand at the Province Treasurer's Office. | |
|--|--|
| No. | |
| 878, | in favor of T. T. Hewlett, Esq. £50 0 0 |
| 879, | " Jacob Day, 20 0 6 |
| 882, | " Chairman of Commit. of Correspondence, 100 0 0 |
| 883, | " Dominicus Milliken, 20 0 0 |
| 884, | " Richard Dunn, 5 0 0 |
| 885, | " Robert M'ellan, 10 0 0 |
| 886, | " Willer Chapman, 12 0 0 |
| 887, | " James Wilson, 7 0 0 |
| 888, | " James White, 20 0 0 |
| Nos. 880 and 881 have been paid. | |
| No. | |
| 93, | in favor of Margaret Watson, £10 0 0 |
| 95, | " Jos. Bouchette, Esq. 30 0 0 |
| 96, | " Daniel Michéau, 10 0 0 |
| 97, | " James Whitehead, 10 0 0 |
| 98, | " Dr. Boyd, 20 0 0 |
| 99, | " Harriet Hannah, 20 0 0 |
| 100, | " Reuben Brockaway, 25 0 0 |
| 101, | " Wm. Abrams, Esq. 96 10 2 |
| 102, | " Elizabeth Wetherall, 10 0 0 |
| 103, | " Flora M' Rae, 20 0 0 |
| 104, | " John M'Lean, 20 0 0 |
| 105, | " Thos. Barnett, 20 0 0 |
| 106, | " Thos. Addison, 10 0 0 |
| 107, | " Charles Leslie, 15 0 0 |
| 108, | " Emily E. Gorman, 10 0 0 |
| 109, | " Patrick Flanagan, 40 0 0 |
| 110, | " Rachel Martin, 10 0 0 |
| 111, | " James Miller, 20 0 0 |