

indeed, when faith seemed but a slender arm to lean upon. We feel that we are in touch with things that we do not wholly understand. "At the helm," to use Stevenson's phrase, "was that unknown Steersman, whom we call God." The mood of the Armistice day has passed. We shall never again awaken with such a thrill, perhaps never again rejoice with such unwonted tears and with such irrepressible laughter. Already we begin to see somewhat of the responsibility of the victors in the building up of a new heaven and a new earth. But we seek to join together in honouring the memory of men who held this place dear, of comrades who trained themselves, far better than they knew, in these classrooms and these playing fields, for the greatest struggle that mankind has ever known, and who, having done their work with conscience and with a free spirit, do now rest from their labours. It was not given to them to see of the fruit of their toil, but we who are alive and remain would send forth the rumour of them upon every wind of heaven.

For their sacrifice, and the sacrifice of tens of thousands like-minded with themselves, has saved the Empire. It is a strange, unstudied thing, this Empire, created in no small part by men who knew not what they were doing, and held together by ties that are all the stronger the more they are indefinite and intangible. The Battle of the Plains of Abraham was hardly even a skirmish as men measure these things to-day, but it secured for the British crown this Canada of ours. The ventures of merchant seamen, the cupidity of traders, the quixoticism of those who fled the conventions of civilized life, the efforts of the missionary, all these have built up this Empire to which we belong, and it has been administered in a temper that has been a marvel of unselfishness. There has been freedom of entrance everywhere for all white men, and the seas have been free to every ship save the pirate. There were days, not so many months ago, when it seemed as though a speedy dissolution might be the fate of this great and unique experiment in government by an unforced loyalty. That shadow has now passed.