

men than the whole British Empire. They have not only outgrown in numbers all the British elsewhere, but they have kept what may be called the faith of the race. They have kept the racial and national characteristics. They have kept British law, British freedom, British Parliaments, British character.

I am not boasting of my own land; I am only reciting how your race has endured and survived separation from you and your land.

Our foundations were British; our political structure is British, with variations; our social structure is British—also with important variations; more important still, our standards of character and of honour and of duty are your standards; and life and freedom have the same meaning to us that they have to you. These are the essential things, and in these we have always been one.

And now the day of our supreme test and of the heroic mood is come. There is now a race reason why we should have a complete understanding; and such a complete understanding has come. You will, I hope, pardon me for even alluding to our old differences; for they are now long-forgotten far-off things. I allude to them only to clear the way. It is not the going of the Pilgrims nor the falling away of the Colonies that we now celebrate, but rather the coming of American warships, which symbolise the new union of the two peoples that this fierce assault on our civilisation has revealed afresh. Politically two peoples, in all high aims and in the love of freedom we are one, and must now remain at one for ever.

Differences Swept Away

This war has swept away incidental differences between us as a harrow smooths a field. Not only are our warships come. Our troopships, too, have landed an army on the soil of our brave Ally, where the enemy yet keeps the wavering line of an invader, and more warships will come and more troopships, million-laden, if need be, till that line is for ever broken and till the submarines are withdrawn or are for ever submerged. There is coming the greatest victory for free government that was ever won, and the day of this victory which we are both fighting for may turn out to be the most important date in our history, or perhaps in all history. And the necessity to win it has cleared the air as no other event in modern times has cleared it; and but for the millions of brave lives it has cost, this clearing of the air would richly repay all that the war will cost. It has revealed the future of the world to us not as conquerors, but as preservers of its peace. The free, peace-loving nations will have no more of this colossal,