

sociations, however, in connection with this gathering which appeal to our sensibilities as being unique, and which lend more than ordinary interest to it—in that while it gives us the opportunity to extend a welcome to these distinguished guests, we have likewise the opportunity for the first time together to offer congratulations to our former past president, SIR GEORGE GIBBONS. It is fitting that his first public appearance, since his services to his country have been so fittingly recognized at the hands of HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE, should be before the members of this club. To him properly more than any other citizen may be attributed the credit for the splendid foundation laid at its organization. We take a just pride in him, not only as our past president, but as a citizen, and as a Canadian whose services justly entitle him to the honor conferred. It has been worthily bestowed, and we trust his life may be spared for many years of continued usefulness to his country and to this city. We welcome, this evening, our new fellow citizen, HIS LORDSHIP BISHOP FALLON. It is peculiarly gratifying to us that HIS LORDSHIP'S first public utterance to the citizens of London should be at this our annual gathering. We extend to him cordial greetings. His response to the members of this club in accepting the invitation to be with us on this occasion, convinces us that the aims and objects of our organization find in him a sympathetic chord. The Canadian Club in London is now in the fifth year of its being, and that it has taken a strong place amongst the institutions established in our city, is evidenced by its increasing prosperity, and the continued loyalty and support of its whole membership. I believe we are better Canadians, and better citizens as a result of the influence this club exerts. Canadian Clubs have

taken a strong hold on our people and have become deeply rooted throughout all sections of our Dominion. They are an educative force. Their sphere of usefulness has become, not only national, but international, and their branches have spread throughout the United States and to the mother land. Their mission since their inception has been to foster patriotism, to encourage the study of Canadian institutions, her history, arts, literature and resources, and generally to unite Canadians in such work as might seem desirable for the welfare and progress of the DOMINION. In the neighboring republic their mission has rather been directed to promoting amity and friendship between the people of that country and our Dominion—surely a laudable object. The development of two democratic peoples on this part of the North American continent, living side by side in perfect peace and harmony is a matter of the greatest interest. We cannot but note with admiration the marvellous growth of our friends and cousins across the international boundary, we wish them the fullest measure of success in all of their high aims and the happy achievement of a magnificent destiny. Are not their best interests indissolubly linked with ours? Have they not the same problems of government and the same social reforms to solve? We have awakened to a sense of national greatness, and inspired with belief in the enormous possibilities of our Dominion. We are marching forward to the fulfillment of our great destiny. Greater because our institutions have been founded upon the everlasting principles of justice, honor and truth. These are qualities which, if adhered to in the future, will make our nation a prominent factor in the advancement of civilization. Canadian Clubs are taking their part in moulding public opinion. They are growing