

did so. As regards himself his lips seemed always to be sealed.

But, gentlemen, all these praises, as well as the imposing funeral which the State has given to the illustrious deceased, would be vain if his life did not convey profound lessons.

In the popular and incomparable tributes which followed his death, what has been most remarkable and most touching is the spontaneous and universal character of the manifestations. The deepest emotions appear everywhere. These manifestations were the expression of the sentiments of a whole people, of respect for the person of the illustrious deceased, of admiration for his qualities of mind and heart, of faith in the soundness of his leadership, of deep gratitude for a whole life of honest and enlightened devotion consecrated unreservedly to the welfare of the State.

And what is not less consoling is to see how, on the morrow of controversies of the most passionate character, political parties made a truce over his tomb, to honour his memory with a unanimity truly touching. His influence on the people was unquestionably much deeper than one would have imagined. This warrants the hope that the noble lesson which he constantly preached, in favour of peace and harmony between different races and creeds, will not be lost. Unquestionably the people were always responsive to his thought. We shall see him no more, but his lofty political conceptions, his example, and his ideas of union and tolerance, will remain and bear fruit. Let us, gentlemen, with Sir Wilfrid Laurier, have faith in our country, and hope for a Canada great, prosperous and united. Let us have also a fender thought for Lady Laurier, his companion for more than fifty years, and whose whole life has been one of devotion, affection and charity.

Hon. JAMES DOMVILLE: Honourable gentlemen, having been so long associated with Sir Wilfrid Laurier, I desire to say a few words, not to the public, but to the family he has left behind. You remember that at the funeral of Herodotus it was said that ages yet unborn would remember with gratitude the deeds of their forefathers. So it will be with Sir Wilfrid Laurier and, I trust, with every good man. Animositities have been dropped, in thinking of the realities of life, rather than of party government or what may be gotten out of it. I may be pardoned for saving a few words. I came to the House of Commons in 1872—47 years ago. Sir Wilfrid Laurier came in

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about eighteen months later. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has passed away. My honourable friend (Hon. Sir James Loughheed) says we should take warning—that the dial is pointing. Very little is left of Parliament as it was when I first came in. I have witnessed the struggles, have observed the various ambitions, and remain the sole representative—the dean, so to speak—of both our great heroes of the past. Sir John A. Macdonald, as we all know, was a very great man, but few, in passing away, have left anything to mark their career, or to show that they ever existed. But here to-day we have representatives of both sides setting up before their country, particularly the youth of the country, the noble example of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Let us emulate his example, although we may not all have agreed with him at all times. His name will shine in the history of the world when the names of others will never be heard. There is nothing more to be said, except that we all, be our politics what they may, join in sorrow at the passing away of a great Canadian, and in sympathy for the sorrowing relatives he has left behind.

Hon. J. H. LEGRIS (Translation): Honourable gentlemen, before this still half-open tomb, which contains the mortal remains of the statesman whom the Canadian people mourn, because he was good, and because he personified integrity and right, loyalty and love of country, unquestionable qualities of heart and mind, tolerance and personal disinterestedness, may I be permitted to join my voice of grief with those eloquent voices which we have just heard, to render a last homage to the great departed.

We have seen time accomplish its work on this remarkable personality, while the snows of the years covered his noble head; but one became accustomed to this fact as one becomes accustomed to pain, and it seemed to us that our companion, friend, and leader would be spared to us for some years longer, so much did the country need him; because he undoubtedly possessed all the finest qualities of heart and mind as well as knowledge and political genius. His instinct and grasp of things were unerring. If his counsels had prevailed, if the course which he favoured had been followed, on the great questions which arose, especially in the last few years, the country would have been in a much better condition to endure the period of anguish through which we have recently passed and which unfortunately is not yet ended.