

they looked on the commercial enterprise of a Liverpool on one side of the Atlantic, and of a New York on the other, which we find it impossible to match; and we felt compelled to acknowledge ourselves behind the two great nations of our race in these regards. That was one side of the account. He was addressing commercial men, and would employ a fashionable and favorite formula of theirs, and one which he believed was considered quite conclusive — he meant the debit and credit account. They had on one side of the account these marks of high culture, of material development and commercial enterprise; but going behind material development, and glancing back to first principles, he found two items on the credit side of the account which he would mention. And first, here in Canada, enjoying the full measure of *religious* liberty, no man was called upon by the state to contribute a farthing towards the maintenance of a form of religion in which he did not believe. And next, enjoying the full measure of *civil* liberty, he would note this item, that in Canada no man could be held in bondage by statute. He should say no more, but let any of his commercial hearers, complete the account, and strike the balance, and he would abide by the result. Yet another word and he should sit down. It was a law, he believed, in the working of the precious metals, that none of them was fitted for circulation or common use unless mixed with some portion of metal of a baser sort. Now when people were met together on such an occasion as this, to celebrate the glories of the race from which they sprung, it was quite pardonable that they should regard their own race as the pure gold. So for to-night they might regard the Puritan Pilgrim stock as the pure gold, and when the sons of St. George met together they too should indulge in the pleasant belief that their stock was the pure gold; when the St. Andrew's Society met they might indulge in the same flattering notion respecting the race of Scotchmen, and on St. Patrick's Day the Irishmen might regard the children of their own country — his own fellow countrymen — as the only pure and unadulterated gold, and so each would be pleased, as they had a right to be pleased, when met for such rejoicings. But they should all remember that the pure gold of each race must be mixed with alloy before it was fit for common circulation. If any one of these races were planted here in its purity, it might prove too perfect a race to live, and thus pass away without leaving any adequate mark. But here, in this Canada, they would put all together in one national crucible, and produce a national metal, more useful, more beautiful, and more durable than any other. Again returning them thanks for their kind reception of his name, he should sit down by wishing them all "Happy homes and altars free."

The Chairman next proposed the eighth toast. He was sure it would appeal sufficiently to their feelings from whatever side of the line they came, to secure for it a cordial reception.