

*The GOVERNOR GENERAL'S APPEAL through the Women's Canadian Club of Montreal, December 12, 1907, to the WOMEN OF CANADA to celebrate the 300th Birthday of Canada by the nationalization of the Battlefields of Quebec.*

I wonder whether you ladies have ever realized the various emotions that pass through the mind of the immigrant to Canada, as the vessel on which he is a passenger steams up the stately St. Lawrence to Montreal. Remember that the first impression received by the immigrant to the United States is conveyed to him by the Statue of Liberty, placed by the bounty of France at the entrance of the harbour of New York. The message conveyed to him by the ever-burning light of liberty, fills his heart with hope and generous emotions. Contrast this experience with that of the immigrant to Montreal. When he passes Quebec, with mind aglow with expectation, and looks up to the Plains of Abraham, where the fate of America was decided, and the foundation of Greater Britain was laid, he sees no inspiring monument speaking of welcome and hope, but only a building associated with all that is darkest in the life of Canada, a black, frowning gaol, and that gaol standing upon the very ground where Wolfe gave up his life. **THERE IS NO MORE SACRED SPOT OF EARTH ON THE WHOLE OF THIS AMERICAN CONTINENT.**

**LADIES, IT IS PART OF YOUR WORK NOT TO REST CONTENT UNTIL THAT POLLUTING GAOL HAS BEEN REMOVED TO SOME OTHER AND MORE APPROPRIATE SITUATION.**

Next year, as you are aware, is the 300th anniversary of the founding of Quebec by Champlain. It has been suggested by a committee appointed by Mr. Garneau, the Mayor of Quebec, consisting of Chief Justice Sir F. Langelier, Mr. Taché and Col. Wood, that the Champlain Tercentenary should be celebrated by the consecration of the famous battlefields of Quebec. This suggestion has received the warm approval of Mr. Gouin, the Premier of the Province of Quebec, and of Sir Wilfrid Laurier.