

PREFACE.

THIS book is published as a memorial volume. It is, in its way, a record of the period which has elapsed since the author took up his Canadian citizenship—now nearly twenty years ago. But let it be said at once that he is under no illusions as to the reception it is likely to meet with or the vogue it is likely to enjoy. He is well aware that these addresses and papers may turn out to have mainly a local interest, and that some of them may be considered even out of date, especially since the sudden outbreak of this appalling world-war. But if their publication should be criticized as superfluous and unnecessary, he would only plead in extenuation the fact that they form, to some extent, a record of institutional policy as well as of individual opinion, and that he has felt strongly on many of the subjects with which they deal.

This last remark refers especially to the imperial series, which was selected, like the rest, from a mass of available material before the war broke out. Some of the misunderstandings that surround the imperial issue might be cleared away if individuals would only examine themselves intelligently, and frankly declare which way their aspirations tend. The writer has sought to give a reason for the faith and hope that are in him; those who have regarded his reported attitude as ultra-imperialist will have the opportunity now, if they care to take it, of