

when after the lapse of time, he occasionally does me the honour of an official visit and he is leaving my room, I surreptitiously endeavour to detect the silver streak of advancing years, I do so quite in vain, and I see before me exactly the same energetic and cheerful public officer, exactly the same lithe and active soldier, as I knew in Lord Lansdowne's time — a man, in my humble opinion, well suited to preside over and direct the manly ambitions of a Club such as yours.

Gentlemen, as you have so kindly invited me to your banquet to-night, I conclude I am expected to venture what I believe are generally called "a few remarks" in response to the toast which you have so cordially welcomed. But, gentlemen, since my sojourn in the Dominion, there is no lesson which has been more deeply impressed upon me than the danger of those "few remarks", especially after the exhilarating effects of a banquet such as this upon the dangerous ambitions of a constitutional ruler. To-night however, Mr. President, I hope I may rejoice in a sense of security, in the knowledge that we are in no political or party atmosphere, that this great gathering is animated by one wish alone, the wish, the determination, to foster the patriotism of a United Canada. Even as a Governor General who has a warm place in his heart for Canada and Canadians, I think I may publicly subscribe to that sentiment without fear of criticism.

I gather, gentlemen, from the rules of your