

ror, the truest qualities of his race crowned by an unswerving faith, as his village is by the steeple of its church.

Allow me, honourable gentlemen, to lay on this recently-closed grave the homage of my admiration and deep respect.

One who, for the first time, listens within these walls to the speech from the Throne, delivered with the pomp, splendour and state that characterize this ceremony, cannot help being deeply impressed. In it the majesty of the crown and the sovereignty of the people are admirably united. We are fortunate in having, in a young and democratic country like ours, a personality as truly royal as that of our Governor General, to constantly keep before our eyes the image of the imposing and benevolent majesty of the British Crown.

Some one has very justly said that history contains several white pages, many that are red with blood and a great many black with mourning. How admirably fitted those words are to our times. After sixteen months of a frightful struggle, how many pages of our history are stained with the blood of our fellow-countrymen and darkened by the mourning of our families. On the other hand, how many pages, thank God, are and will ever stay brightened with a glory never to be dimmed. After sixteen months of bloodshed and slaughter, victory may seem distant, but it cannot fail to come. What must we do in order to secure it?

Our army already numbers nearly a quarter of a million men and the Government appeals to the patriotism of this country to increase this number, if need be, to half a million. The figure is an enormous one. Who among us, a few years ago, would have thought our country capable of such effort?

The great armies of the past lose much of the importance which is given them by history when they are compared with so formidable a military force. Hannibal upon leaving Carthage to conquer Spain and part of the Roman Empire, had but 100,000 men under his banners. If my memory serves me right, Napoleon had with him not more than 100,000 men when he entered Moscow. At the time of the civil war in the United States, there were in all 160,000 combatants in the battlefields of Gettysburg.

Our country is young and its population relatively small, but its patriotism and courage will not be found wanting. Our people are relying on the loyalty and wisdom of the Government to be shown their duty, and they will know how to accomplish it.

Allow me, honourable gentlemen, to bow

to one of the members of this House, honourable Senator Curry, who lost one of his sons on the field of honour. I desire also to recall the memory of one of your former colleagues, honourable Senator Drummond, whose distinguished son, Mr. Guy Drummond, heroically gave up his life for his country. I offer my congratulations to my numerous colleagues whose names are so nobly represented by their sons and relatives on the honour-roll of the army.

At one of the numerous patriotic meetings held by our ministers in the province of Quebec, I heard honourable Mr. Patenaude make a very touching comparison. Speaking to the electors of our rural districts, in order to impress upon them even more vividly their duty of flying to the defense of their country, he said: "Is there, gentlemen, a more inspiring spectacle than to see an Anglo-Canadian like Mr. Guy Drummond give up his life for his country, while commanding in French his fellow-citizens of French origin, and Major Roy, a French-Canadian generously sacrificing his life to save his soldiers, while he was commanding in English his fellow-citizens of English origin."

In order to fittingly eulogize our glorious dead, I cannot do better than quote the beautiful verses of Victor Hugo:

Ceux qui pieusement sont morts pour la patrie,
Ont droit qu'à leur cercueil la foule vienne et
[prie ;
Entre les plus beaux noms, leur nom est le plus
[beau,
Toute gloire près d'eux passe et tombe éphé-
Et comme ferait une mère, [mère,
La voix d'un peuple entier les berce en leur
[tombeau. -

Honourable gentlemen, our country has made a prodigious effort not only in the number of men contributed, but in the amount of money expended. Let us examine how this effort has resulted with regard to the economic condition of the country. How did it affect our external trade? I shall not offer my own personal testimony in this respect, but will submit to you that of a man completely outside of political life, and whose competence cannot be questioned, since he is no less than the general manager of one of the leading banks in this country. His remarks will show that, far from being impaired by the present crisis, our country has largely benefited by it. Dealing with this matter, Mr. Pease, the general manager of the Royal Bank, in his annual report, dated the 15th instant, says:

The decrease in imports of merchandise, namely, \$60,681,000, and the increase in exports, \$152,315,000, for the year ended November