

widen and expand, until it bears on its broad bosom the hopes and fears, the interests and aspirations of the whole great Brotherhood of Man. I have already said that it is this feature of our Order which to many constitutes its greatest charm. I may add that it is this which gives it its greatest moral power, and constitutes its highest claim on the good will of the statesman, the Patriot and the Christian.

Free Masonry has ample work to do in all states and nations in hastening the brotherhood of man. In this Canada of ours there is sufficient need that it should spread the cement of *Brotherly Love* to counteract the sectional, political, and sectarian tendencies to alienation and strife. In the *religious* world, too, I am sorry to say, there is need of Masonic labor to realize the *unity* for which every true worshipper of the Great Jehovah ever hopes and prays. It ought not so to be, but it is true that in the Masonic circle there is a tie of brotherhood which makes religious men more *truly fraternal*, and not merely to *express* more of that union which is so essential to religious joy and usefulness, than they are wont to have outside of that circle. And surely, if ever age or country had need of all the forces that can be made available for so great a result, our young Dominion in this, the hour of her youth and danger, has the need. Here, within our borders, we have a community composed of races widely different in origin and idiosyncrasy, and the tide of emigration is constantly bringing in waves of population from the elder world, to find a home and country under the broad shelter of our free institutions, our just and equal laws. To unite and assimilate these varied people is a task which will require Masonic cement and Masonic charity. Let us each strive, in his own humble sphere, faithfully to use the *Trowel* and spread the *cement* of affection and kindness which unites all the members of the Masonic family, wherever dispersed, into one membership of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

I have now, Brothers, endeavored with appropriate brevity, to urge upon you the observance of the two great Masonic virtues which I mentioned at the outset of my address. Of the many minor qualities which are essential to the perfect character of a true Mason, it is unnecessary now to speak. Let me conclude by urging upon you as a Grand Lodge, and as individual brethren, the absolute necessity of a strict adherence to these principles. The words of the great Teacher