

fast coming when there shall be no difference in this country between men of different races and different creeds. All of us in this country have inherited from the motherland the same great heritage; we all enjoy the same splendid privileges; and it seems to me that it is the duty, nay, I may say the privilege, of every Canadian, no matter what his race or religion may be, to defend those splendid institutions and to stand manfully by the glorious traditions of this great Empire.

I am sure everyone is glad to find that there is a growing desire in this country on the part of the public men on both sides—of both political parties, if you wish—to utter but the one sentiment, the right sentiment, the only honourable sentiment, that we should be prepared to sacrifice our last man and our last dollar if need be in the defence of the Empire to which we belong. A man's race is a matter of accident. One is born of French parentage, another of British parentage; one is an Irishman, another a Frenchman, another an Englishman, another a Scotchman. Surely that should not make any difference between us. Surely that should not cause one to think in one way and another to think in another way of the splendid things that have been accomplished in the past by the men who have fought for the supremacy of this Empire without regard to their race or their religion. The men who defended the flag which flies over us to-day were men professing different faiths; they were men in whose veins flowed different blood. They were not all Englishmen, they were not all Scotchmen, they were not all Irishmen, they were not all Frenchmen; many other races contributed by their valor, their strength of purpose, and their determination to the upholding of this Empire and all that it stands for. Therefore we all have the right to stand now shoulder to shoulder to defend it.

During the course of my short life I have had to do with men of different creeds and different races, and I have found them all the same. I have never found that there is a greater number of good or noble or brave men in one race or in one religion than in another. We all stand for the right; we all stand for what is best. Sometimes we fall away from the high ideals in which we believe; but it must be apparent to everyone that in striving for the principles for which we stand no one can be excluded on account of his race or religion. Why, honourable gentlemen, in the little town from which

I come I have seen many a man with French blood in his veins tramping along the street wearing a Highland uniform and ready to give his life in defence of this great Empire. Men of all races and all creeds have stood manfully for the defence of this country and this Empire in the great war that is now being waged. There has been absolutely no distinction. I believe, as has been said here this morning, that when the records of this war are written, it will be found that all Canadians, of every race and every religion, have done their duty nobly, and that the deeds of the soldiers of Canada have been second to none.

A few days ago I noticed in a newspaper a few lines which were penned as coming from the lips of a great patriot, and I take this occasion of repeating them. I believe that they are words that should bring not only inspiration, but serious thought to everyone in this country, so that, when any man is tempted, in this House or anywhere else, to attack anyone's faith or religion, if he remembers them, they may cause him to desist from a course which in my opinion is always detrimental to the best interests of this country. A few years ago John Redmond, that great patriot, that great Irishman who agitated for many years by constitutional methods to bring about reforms in the government of the country in which he lived, repeated these words;

And oh! it were a glorious thing
To show to all mankind
How every race and every creed
May be by love combined—
May be combined, yet ne'er forget
The source from which they rose,
As, fed by many a rivulet,
The lordly Shannon flows.

Hon. HEWITT BOSTOCK: We have had a very interesting discussion on this subject, and I rise only for the purpose of adding a few words to what has already been said.

It is, I think, impossible at this time to say definitely what form a memorial of the events of this war should take. If we make a proposal of that kind, we are assuming that we know all that is going to happen; and no man is in a position at the present moment to say how long the war is liable to continue. I quite agree that every possible step should be taken to collect data from time to time, so that we may have the fullest information as to the events of the war as they happened, and as to the results which are likely to follow.

I noticed in a newspaper the other day a brief paragraph referring to what had been done by the cavalry in the great fight