

intelligence and reason could be ever finally lost in a storm of passion, it would be unfortunate for Canada and we might well despair of her future. The true interests of French Canada lies, not in keeping aloof from, but in identifying itself with all other nationalities for the security and peace of the whole country, irrespective of provincial boundaries or race considerations. The success of confederation up to the present has been based on this spirit of Canadian unity.

Those who have visited the interesting village of St. Anne's at the junction of the rivers Ottawa and St. Lawrence — a spot made famous by the poet Moore — may have noticed an interesting natural phenomenon. The waters of the Ottawa are distinctly blue whilst those of the St. Lawrence are perfectly green. Where these rivers join, we can easily distinguish their respective hues for some distance, but at last these differences disappear and the Ottawa and St. Lawrence form one magnificent stream bearing on its bosom the traffic and wealth of half a continent. So it should be with the French and British peoples of Canada. They may to a certain point preserve their national characteristics, but whenever it becomes a question involving the peace, happiness and unity of the Dominion, let us hope that all differences of race will disappear, and the French Canadian will be found working energetically and harmoniously with the English Canadian in all matters affecting the best interests of the Confederation which owes its origin to their common efforts.

House of Commons, Ottawa,
1st December 1885.