

them be faithful to the noblest inspirations of their faith; let them obey the generous impulse of their rich Celtic nature; in a word, let them be true to themselves, and they will remain the steadfast allies of the French Canadians, as their forefathers were for centuries the allies of the French in Europe — but with this radical difference and result, that whereas the alliance of the French and Irish in Europe had and could have no other object but to humble their common and secular enemy, England, in Canada, on the contrary, the close partnership of Irish and French must have as its sole and constant object the maintenance, in peace and harmony, of the basic conditions of the truce of amity concluded, fifty years ago, between English and French, Catholics and Protestants. Upon the terms of that truce, Canada emerged from the low rank of a wrangling and forced association of discordant races to the high level of a free partnership entered into by the descendants of two great peoples.

Upon those terms alone shall Canada live and attain her higher destinies.

Associated by their language with the English-speaking majority, by their faith and their common remembrances with the French-speaking minority, the Irish, who had no part to play in the earlier life of Canada, may become the everlasting link of union between English and French, — the three groups communing in the same broad sentiment of Canadian nationalism.

