

momentum with the lapse of time. Little events sometimes disturb nations; we know perfectly well that expression of opinions sometimes interfere with the prosperity of a country; and for that reason, no matter what side of the House we occupy, be we Reformer or be we Conservative, we owe it to our country to protect its interests and its people; we owe it to our country to utter nothing that will be detrimental to its interests, we owe it to our country to guard it in every particular, both at home and abroad. With these ideas before us we may rely upon it that the young oak of Canadian nationality, planted but as yesterday, will spread out until it extends from one end of the Dominion to the other. Let us hope that the dew-drop on the very leaf of the acorn will never generate the sap of religious antagonism, bigotry or sectionalism, will never develop racial differences, will never develop anything but what will tend to advance the best interests of Canada; and in that way, and in no other way, we will become bound together as one people. When I look around this Chamber to-day and observe the seats that were once occupied by great men whose voices are now hushed, it seems to me that a phonetic power emanates from these walls to-day that binds us together as one.

When I think of a Macdonald, a Cartier, a Mackenzie, and a Dorion, the quadruple powers of intellect, activity, intelligence, and perseverance; when I think what these men did for this country in years past, how they formed by their energy and ability the very warp and woof of that structure upon which to-day rests the civil and religious liberties of this country, I feel constrained to ask, have we not reason to feel proud of what has been accomplished? Let us look forward now to a unity of effort and a unity of design, and irrespective of political considerations, with no other object in view but the advancement of the material interests of our country, let us perpetuate the fair name of Canada, let us endeavour to continue it as a colony of which the Government of Great Britain has reason to feel proud; because I feel assured that among the territorial dominions of Her Majesty there is not one that occupies a higher position than Canada. Sir, I wish its people the greatest possible degree of prosperity, and God-speed.

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