

toward the members of the Government, during the period of his service, appreciation also of the keen interest which he took in the welfare of this country, and especially of the services which he was enabled to give to Canada by virtue of his great military knowledge and experience. I associate myself also most heartily with what my right hon. friend has said with regard to the Duchess of Connaught. In every way both she and the Princess Patricia aided and encouraged patriotic work during the progress of the war; and I am sure that their Royal Highnesses left Canada, bearing with them the esteem, the admiration, and the respect of the Canadian people. I do not doubt that their memories of their sojourn in Canada will be agreeable as ours are of their stay amongst us in the service of King and Empire.

His Excellency the Governor General, the Duke of Devonshire, comes of a family invested with great traditions in the service of the Empire, a family that has had a most distinguished record in public affairs for more than two centuries. There have been many men of great ability and distinction who have served as Governor General in this country, but no Governor General has come as an inheritor of finer traditions of public service or with a more comprehensive grasp of public questions, as they touch not only this country and the United Kingdom, but the whole Empire, than the Duke of Devonshire. He has already given earnest of the keen interest which he will take in all that concerns this country, its resources, future prosperity and development and its relation to the greater whole of which it forms a part. As my right hon. friend has said, the Duchess of Devonshire is the daughter of one who may be justly regarded as among the "Elder Statesmen" of the empire, one who served for a full term as Governor General of Canada; and it has been an especial pleasure, I know, to the people of Canada to welcome her once more to this country, in which, indeed, she has shown an intense and abiding interest ever since the early days when she was resident at Rideau Hall.

My hon. friend the member for Wentworth (Mr. G. C. Wilson) spoke in very eloquent terms of the services which the womanhood of Canada have given to this country since the war broke out. I join most heartily in that tribute which he has so deservedly paid. We know what a wonderful spirit the womanhood of Canada, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, have

shown in this war. They have not been backward; they have been to the front in all patriotic work. More than that, they have shown a magnificent and indomitable spirit in yielding to the service of the country those who are nearest and dearest to them, and in bearing with fortitude and resignation the sad news which has only too often come of the loss of those who are near and dear.

I should like to express here my deep sympathy with my fellow-members in this House who since prorogation have had tidings of loss and sorrow to them and their families. One consolation there is to them, as to all those who have suffered such bereavement, that these young men have fallen doing their full duty to Canada and to the Empire, and that their memory will never be forgotten by Canadians of to-day and of the years to come.

My hon. friend the member for Wentworth spoke also of the ancient colony of Newfoundland, so near to us and so closely associated with us by ties of kinship, of common interest and of common allegiance. It is a colony which has done its part splendidly in this war, because there have been no finer or braver men at the front than those of the Newfoundland contingent. The hon. gentleman has expressed a hope that at some later date it may be possible to embrace within the union of this Confederation that ancient colony. It would be inappropriate for me to express any opinion or make any suggestion on that subject beyond this: that the initiative in such a matter, it seems to me, would properly lie with Newfoundland herself. If advances should be made by this Dominion in that regard, they might be misunderstood; but it is not inappropriate for me to say that I am voicing the opinion of the Canadian Parliament and people in assuring Newfoundland that if she desires to take the initiative and to come with any proposal, we should in this Parliament and in this country cordially welcome the advance and give to the proposal our most careful and attentive consideration.

My hon. friend the member for Jacques Cartier (Mr. J. A. Descarries) whose speech was very eloquent indeed, referred to the splendid efforts which Great Britain has made in this war, and especially to the work of the navy. I wish to associate myself with what he has so finely and so worthily said in that regard. It is difficult for us in this House to realize the immensity of the ocean and the tremendous task which has confronted the British navy from first to last. Now and then a raider has got

[Sir Robert Borden.]