

gallant Norman and the fiery Celt, which is in our veins, will assert itself again, yet thanks be to Almighty God, our national life began and has continued in peace; and as we chose for our national emblems the Canadian beaver and our own beautiful maple leaf, so have we sought to build up, harmonize and beautify our splendid heritage; and during the short period, less than a quarter of a century, of our national life, we have made it possible for the ship which sails from Vancouver westward to land her unbroken cargo at Port Arthur; we have girded the continent with bands of steel, piercing mountains, spanning torrents; and crossing the snow-capped giants of the Rocky and Selkirk chains, linked Canada, the youngest, to Japan and China, the oldest of the empires of the Orient. We have accomplished in this short time on land that which astonishes every visitor to our shores, while we have justified our traditions on the sea, in making Canada third in rank of the maritime nations of the world; and at this moment the sails of Canadian ships whiten every sea, commanded by Canadian descendants of Drake, and Hawkins, Frobisher and Richard Grenville, Nelson and Collingwood, Cartier and D'Iberville. Better still than even this material progress is the fact that we are building the foundations of our nationality broad and deep, cemented by the mutual respect and confidence of the several parts, endeavoring to solemnize Law with the moral sanctity of Religion, and to crown it with its only appropriate capital, Lawful Constitutional Authority.

If we fulfil the traditions of our heritage, we will be a hardy, a healthy, and a moral people, and if worthy of our ancestry, a daring and a dominant race. Before the Romans knew much of the valor of our ancestors, who were destined to sack Rome and defeat them on the plains of Italy, they had learned to admire the moral character of these northern peoples. "No one among them," says a Roman historian, "makes a jest of vice, for it is not with them, as with us, an age of corrupting and corruption."

I have said nothing of our mental qualities. I have space to say but little, but no one can attend an examination in one of our public schools or in any of our colleges, nor be much with those now entering upon the much harder school of actual life, without being convinced that in all mental qualities the youth of Canada are *second to none*. On them rests the future of this great country, the exemplification of the attributes of our great race; recreant to this trust they may possibly be, but I see no sign of it in the present and nothing in the future to disturb my deep-seated conviction that they will continue as we have begun; and building this nation in the fear of Him Who gave us this Great Heritage, with love for Her who gave us national life, endeavoring, as we have done, to dissolve all differences and melt away all jealousies in the crucible of