

to the present time of an American cable system, and news agencies and literature. He who understands the existing loyalty of Canada to the Empire will then realize in the full light of its history that, despite the ties of tradition and allegiance and sentiment, the maintenance and development of that loyalty is one of the miracles of the century.

To the young men of Canada a knowledge of its history and progress is not only desirable but necessary. To understand the business situation of to-day information concerning the financial, fiscal and commercial development of the Dominion is exceedingly useful. To comprehend the position of political parties, the utterances of public men, the principle and practice of national administration, a knowledge of the political struggles and progress of the country is also essential. In all these respects I believe that the following pages may be found of some service.

I have not tried to make this volume a detailed record of dates and incidents. It has rather been my desire to give an interesting narrative of the great events which go to the making of Canada in such a way as to afford a summarized review instead of a more or less dry list of occurrences. At the same time I trust that no event of importance has been left unrecorded. For a similar reason I have not laden the pages with foot-notes or references to the many hundreds of volumes with which occasion has made me familiar in the preparation of this work and of my *Encyclopædia of Canada*. And, in concluding these few prefatory words, I can only add the hope that a book which has been written with sincere belief in our Canadian land and a deep personal admiration for its striking history may be found of interest and perhaps sow some further seeds of true Canadian sentiment amongst our people.

*J. Castell Hopkins*

Toronto, December, 1900.