

## THE LOYALTY OF THE FRENCH-CANADIANS

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Those who were there behaved themselves so loyally that their heirs to this day are honoured for their sake.—FROISSARR.

THE outburst of fanaticism which has lately characterised some of the English press of this country, because of our disagreement with our fellow-countrymen on the Transvaal question, has prompted me to pick up, from the English historians at home and abroad, the following appreciations of French-Canadian patriotism and loyalty.

Some of the English papers of this country, blinded by their ignorance of history and their hatred for French-Canadians, have entered into a misleading campaign of racial prejudices against the people of the Province of Quebec. All the insults a hysteric brain can imagine, all the false pretenses that could be invoked with a seeming truthfulness, have been set forth. Of the brutal insults I will not speak, nor will I try to refute them; but I want to demonstrate, by quotations from English authors, that the French-Canadians have been and are still loyal to the British crown.

Fortunately, we know too well the straight-forward character of the English people and the manner with which they appreciate the French-Canadians, to pay too much attention to the brutal attacks of some journalists, and to hold every one responsible for their utterances, as most of them repudiate the vile slanderers as we repudiate our hot-headed journalists and politicians. All these utterances ought to be taken for what they are worth, *cum grano salis*.

It is not necessary for us to participate with England's quarrels over gold and diamond mines, it is not necessary for us to approve of England's colonial policy in Africa. We