

patriotism, and I would proceed to define the different kinds of patriotism which it is essential to distinguish. There is first of all what might be called a provincial patriotism, having to do with the feelings and duties that spring from our position as fellow countrymen of the same province. There is then a wider circle opened up by the aggregation of Provinces into a great Dominion. Many of those present can recall with me the time when there was no such relationship, when there was no such conception in the mind of anybody as that of the Dominion of Canada. Some of those present are doubtless in the same position as myself, of not having in the first instance given a very cordial welcome to that conception. But I am enough of a Calvinist to realize that the establishment of the Dominion was among the things that were destined to take place, and that whatever differences of view may have existed at the inception of the Union, it is the present duty of every good Canadian, letting bygones be bygones, to unite for the best interests and highest welfare of the Dominion. But there is a yet wider circle that has to be considered. There is what Mr. Gladstone once very happily spoke of as an Imperial patriotism, a sense of our kinship with all the various peoples of every clime and of many races who dwell within the pax Britannica, and acknowledge the sovereignty of the King.

Our patriotism, then, is of three kinds, Provincial, Dominion, and Imperial, and no one is a true subject or a good citizen, who does not recognize and live up to the duties of these threefold relationships with which these conceptions are concerned.

What I wish to point out now is that each of these three virtues, or three distinct aspects of the virtue of patriotism, is haunted, if I may so speak, by the shadow of its besetting vice. The man who is a too ardent patriot in his provincial relationship, is in danger of yielding to the temptation of sectionalism. The Ontario man is greatly in danger of imagining that there is nothing really worthy of admiration outside of Ontario. The Nova Scotian or the New Brunswicker may very easily persuade himself that all the vast and complex commercial interests of the mighty and growing West should be made primarily to minister to the advancement of one or two Maritime ports, while the breezy and eloquent representative from the Western plains is almost certain