

two races, having had opportunities of knowing each other, have learned to understand and respect each other, and have established the most friendly relations. We can never forget that in the United Kingdom, under similar conditions, the gradual union of the descendants of the French invaders with the native population, produced the truest of citizens and patriots in every sense. From this union and admixture sprung the men who ever since have been among the best leaders of England in peace and in war. Moreover, we have in Canada the inestimable advantage of what we may justly regard as the best system of government invented by man—a system which may not be in all respects perfect, but of which it may well be said, there is no better system as yet in use among the nations which inhabit our planet.

The two historical events alluded to at the outset are widely different. Taken together they may be regarded as of supreme importance, and to the descendants of both races who were engaged in the early struggles they are of special interest. At this distance of time it will be seen, and readily admitted, that mutual benefits have been the outcome. On the one hand the glories of New France having passed into Canadian history on the Plains of Abraham, the pageants of last summer have made plain to the British community how much they gain by the historical inheritance.

On the other hand, Canadians of French origin have acquired complete political liberty as citizens of a self-governing country, and members at the same time of that vaster imperial system which is recognized throughout the world as the bulwark of political freedom and the type of all that is lofty and honourable. Equally with others they follow their own ideals, and perhaps more than others in Canada know what British institutions can effect.

The members of the Canadian Club of Halifax, in view of all the circumstances, feel warranted in appealing