

year. This I say is a wise provision, because it ensures, whatever may happen, that they will remain always, undissipated, the patrimony of the unfortunate. This is well. But it is not enough. We of this generation cannot acquit ourselves of the obligations—we cannot discharge the duties—of humanity by disbursing the benefactions of others. Our path has been smoothed by the liberality, and the prudence, of those who have gone before us; but it will be a shame to us if we do not travel that path in the same spirit, in which, and with the same energy with which, they trod it before us.

Humanity and Christianity, each require that we should personally deny ourselves for the help of our suffering kindred. Humanity and Christianity both require this; for that—"Bear ye one another's burden" is as much a principle of self-culture, as it is a precept of Christian charity. The best that is in us will shrivel up without it.

By our offerings here to-night—by our subscriptions to the excellently administered funds of this Society—it is for us to do our part as Christians, as Englishmen, as men, to do our part in bearing the heavy burdens of our brother Christians,—of our brother Englishmen.

II. Of our brother Englishmen. Let me now say something of the society as it fosters national feeling. I know that we are all Canadians here, English, French, Irish, Scotch, we are all fused into a new nationality, with common interests, and though as yet too young for a common history, we have in place of that, our common hopes and aspirations for the great future of this great country which it is our privilege to possess. But this does not—this must not—cut us adrift from ancestral traditions. This does not—this must not—loosen the hold of ancestral ties. And the societies, and organizations, which reinvigorate these traditions, and bind fast these ties—The Society of St. George—of St. Jean Baptiste—of St. Patrick—and of St. Andrew—there is no need that the feeling of our common Canadian citizenship should dispose us to under-value the good influences of these, or to forget the "rock whence we are hewn" That were to impoverish our souls and to dispossess them of their own, for the history of the past is the inheritance of to-day.

It is by continually reviving the memory, and by imbuing ourselves with the spirit, of those who made England what she is, that we shall be likely to contribute to the national character of our common Canadian country those elements and attributes of national greatness which belong to the race from which we spring. We come of a race naturally constituted for good government. We come of a race pre-eminently progressive and pre-eminently conservative—a race in which the instinct of

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