

Parliament and Congress, not on the ground of high moral character and executive ability, but for the sake, it would seem, of the land of the candidate's birth? I am strongly of opinion that if a man permanently leaves his native land for another country, it is from motives of choice or duty; and I further look upon it, from the time of his arrival, as a duty which he owes to his adopted land, quite apart from his own self interest, to lend his best energies in the development of its resources. Each man will find his own particular sphere of active work in this respect. Whether Irish, Scotch, or English, French or German, it matters not here. In this land these nationalities are all blended in the one word "Canadian." We are not engaged in our busy occupations here, whether of a public or personal nature, that we may strengthen the hands and build up the destinies of Scotland, or Ireland, or Germany. Our country is Canada. We are here because we like it, or because duty calls us; and one of the noblest ambitions that we could have, apart from plain duty or interest, is to unite our energies in the one common aim of building up, stone upon stone, a progressive country here. We may have powerful neighbours, but we are not weak, and they were not long since but as we are now. Their success in the attainment of position and power must only infuse confidence in us, and stimulate us to develop the energies which we know are in us. Let us strive individually to attain this end. I think that it is a noble reflection, open to each one of us in after life when recurring to the events gone by, to feel that our country, and particularly our immediate sphere of active work, have been the better because that we have lived.

We are surrounded by circumstances which should make us feel that there is a future before us—that on our prairies, in our forests, our mines, and our fisheries, and in the genius and vigor of our own people, there are the foundations of a material greatness requiring only to be built upon. The man who constantly feels that he has ability in him lying ready at his will, and has the proper spirit in him to develop that ability, is likely to make his mark in the world. Those with whom he is brought into contact are made to feel that he has