

depicted Canada as the twentieth century nation, and a nation that would have the making of an enormous history. No, not one would have conceded that Canada would rival that great republic to the South. Yet, to-day the whole world looks towards Canada. Instead of the Dominion being dependent upon the British Empire, the Empire's most far seeing statesmen look to Canada for the sinews of imperial strength. When the prime minister, the Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, during the course of one of his speeches, remarked that "the twentieth century belongs to Canada", even Canadians themselves were struck with amazement. This prediction was regarded as idle talk, yet at present it seems likely of better fulfilment than we ourselves fully realize. To-day we see Canada entering upon a great commercial existence, and taking her place among the foremost nations of the world.

It has been truly said that Canada is the land of full and plenty. In her endless resources, her unsurpassed chain of lakes and rivers, her twenty-five thousand miles of iron-capped roads, extending east and west, north and south, her products of grain and minerals, her immense belts of timber and her prosperous commercial institutions, Canada has untold wealth peculiar to herself, and a wealth which even the broadest mind fails to comprehend. No more can she be called that valueless region of ice and snow, or the home of a few Indians, but the eye now rests upon a scene of almost unrivalled beauty, on a boundless garden, in which industry, taste, and wealth, have exhausted all their resources. Canada's pioneer days have come to an end, those years during which there was a continual financial fight for national existence, years during which many were disposed to abandon all, and shout annexation. That was Canada's seed time, the twentieth century is her harvest. Annexation is no longer possible. Conditions, which would have rendered such a move inevitable, have altered, and to-day Canada faces the world as a nation that has moulded her own future, as a nation that has developed from a few isolated townships separated by thousands of miles of untracked forests, from a mere handful of inhabitants, to a confederation of provinces, peopled with an enlightened industrious and prosperous race, loyal to the British crown, though first, and always Canadians.

On St. Patrick's Day, Canada should not be forgotten; because under her flag many of Ireland's sons have found that liberty, prosperity, and independence which a cruel foe had denied them in their own loved Isle of the Ocean. But while Irish exiles are