

tion "stood for the King," and whose brave and self-sacrificing exertions in defence of the unity of the Empire brought ruin upon themselves in their ancient homes, but was the making and glory of Canada by filling this Dominion with men of such chosen virtue. "If England," as a Puritan divine once boasted, "was winnowed of its choice grain for the sowing of America," it is certain that America was reaped and winnowed afresh at the Revolution, and its very choicest men selected by Providence for the peopling of this Dominion. By the loss of these men America was drained of its best elements, and suffered a moral loss which it could ill spare.

The obligations of duty in defence of right against the many or against the few, fidelity to the flag and Empire, fear of God and honour of the King, keeping inviolate their oaths of allegiance and their very thoughts free from sedition, privy conspiracy and rebellion,—all these things were summed up in the one word, "Loyalty," as understood by the men who left the United States to live under their native flag in Canada.

Some of the best and wisest men of the United States have brushed aside the thick covering of fiction and obloquy cast over the memory of these men in popular American histories, and do not conceal their admiration of their character, courage, and devotion to the highest principles for which they willingly sacrificed everything except their honour. Truth will have its revenge in justice at last, and I venture to say that a century hence, America will be more proud of her exiled loyalists than of the vaunted patriots who banished and despoiled them.