

here the language used by the Prime Minister before his electors at St. Rochs: "We are French Canadians, but our country is not confined to the territory shadowed by the citadel of Quebec. Our country! it is all that which is covered by the British flag on the American continent, the fertile lands which border the Bay of Fundy, the valley of the St. Lawrence, the region of the great lakes, the prairies of the west, the Rocky Mountains and the lands bathed by that celebrated ocean where the breezes are as gentle as those of the Mediterranean."

The future of this country depends to a large extent on the sentiments which its several nationalities entertain towards each other, on the spirit of tolerance or intolerance of which they will give proof. As already said, Sir, and it cannot too often be repeated, English and French are called upon to play in America the glorious role France and England have played on the other side of the ocean. To us belongs the noble mission of continuing on the virgin soil of the New World the immortal work achieved by those two proud nations on the historic soil of Europe. Our fellow-citizens of English origin have brought with them from the banks of the Thames that practical spirit, that sense of business and that commercial genius which have placed them undisputably at the head of commerce, of finance and of industry. They have above all brought with them that art of governing men, which they possess to such a high degree, and which their ancestors have undoubtedly borrowed from the Romans.

We, of French origin, have preserved that precious deposit which was bequeathed to us by France, when

*Notre vieux drapeau, trempé de pleurs amers,  
Ferma son aile blanche et repassa les mers.*

We shall never lose that taste for the fine arts and belles-lettres, that harmonious style, that pure and sonorous language, that fine flower of exquisite urbanity, in a word, that thirst for the ideal which is the necessary complement of the Celtic character. If we are generous enough to establish a fair compensation between our faults and our reciprocal qualities, we will give to the world the spectacle of a people endowed with a special type and physiognomy, a jealous guardian of rich national traditions, and remarkable for its intellectual culture. Union and concord ought to preside over all the phases of our political existence, if the idea of our country is to be our object, the desideratum of each of us. In concluding, Mr. Speaker, I cannot do better than quote with passing emphasis the words which Daniel Webster addressed to his fellow-citizens and which at the present moment are replete with interest:

In a day of peace let us advance the arts of peace and the works of peace. Let us develop the resources of our land, call forth its powers, build up its institutions, promote all its great

Mr. LEMIEUX.

interests, and see whether we also, in our day and generation, may not perform something worthy to be remembered. Let us cultivate a true spirit of union and harmony. Let our conceptions be enlarged to the circle of our duties. Let us extend our ideas over the whole of the vast field in which we are called to act. Let our object be our country, our whole country and nothing but our country. And by the blessing of God may that country itself become a vast monument not of domination and terror, but of wisdom, of peace, and of liberty, upon which the world may gaze with admiration for ever.

Mr. SPEAKER. I would like to know the pleasure of the House as to taking the Address en bloc, or paragraph by paragraph?

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. Paragraph by paragraph.

Mr. SPEAKER. The question is on the first paragraph.

On paragraph 1,

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. Mr. Speaker, it now becomes my duty to tender my congratulations to the hon. mover and seconder of the Address which has just been listened to with so much attention by the House. I cannot help feeling, however, that so far as the hon. member for Vancouver (Mr. McInnes) is concerned, that duty, very vigorously discharged, was discharged rather in an aggressive form, and I cannot therefore, quite tender the same hearty congratulations to the hon. gentleman that I would otherwise have it in my power very gladly to do. I noticed, however, a little inconsistency in two portions of the hon. gentleman's speech. In the first place he expressed great gratification at the fact that, for the first time, the Government of Canada had honoured the province of British Columbia with due consideration—referring to the invitation which the hon. gentleman had received to move the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. Before the hon. gentleman finished, however, he made a very earnest and very impassioned—and, of course, a very unselfish—appeal to the Government to do for their supporters from the province of British Columbia what the previous Government had done. I was inclined to believe that the hon. gentleman considered the compliment paid him in asking him to move this Address was much greater than that of having conferred a seat in the Cabinet and a portfolio upon a member from his province. I do not intend, however, to traverse the speech made by the hon. gentleman further than to say this: he referred to the change of sentiment that had caused the province of British Columbia to send a majority of supporters of the present Government. Now, Sir, the hon. gentleman represents in his own person that change. But for the presence of the hon. gentleman in this House the Government would have no majority in British Columbia, so that it is the hon. gentleman's presence that consti-