

hearers quietly without the least motion, anon he raises his arm and emphasises a particular point with a dramatic gesture, frequently striking his breast; at times, as if exalted by his subject and the occasion, he will launch into a torrent of eloquence that will rouse the audience to fever heat. Some of his most eloquent periods are delivered as he leans over the railing of the platform, fixed and motionless, till suddenly rising to his full height and seeming to become taller than he really is, he concludes with a burst of impassioned eloquence, directing his invective against his opponents, his words falling like hammer strokes. And as the orator's mood varies, so does that of the audience. At times a deep silence will prevail, then there will be marks of approval and finally an outburst of wild cheering and enthusiastic gesticulation.

Such is Henri Bourassa the orator. And let it be said, in common fairness, that frequently as I have heard him, I have never heard him indulge in anti-British utterances. During the memorable campaign in St. James I heard him deliver a splendid eulogy of the British flag and the protection enjoyed by all races beneath its folds, and I heard him, addressing a great gathering of his countrymen, make this emphatic declaration: "I am loyal to the traditions of the race from which I have sprung, but I am also loyal to the British flag, which we all love and admire."

It is not only as a speaker that Mr. Bourassa shines. He can also—which is not usual with great public speakers—wield a trenchant pen, as the frequent articles which he contributes to "Le Devoir" over his own signature attest.

I have touched on Henri Bourassa the man, the orator, the writer, and now, what does he stand for?

When we come to consider this question there is a mass of misrepresentation that must be swept away. For instance, I saw it recently stated that the Bourassa movement, as it was called, is a clerical and racial campaign to extend the French language and Quebec institutions throughout Canada. Such a statement is palpably absurd. Mr. Bourassa, it is true, is a fervent Roman Catholic, attached to his faith and his language and a zealous champion of what he deems are the rights of his people when he believes the occasion demands it. But what of that? Are we