

So far we have lived together in as peaceable a manner as could be expected from a people made up of so many different nationalities, and so many widely diverging religious denominations. We have lived under the worthy protection of a noble constitution, aided by the powerful arm of mighty England. We reverence the first; we respect the second. We wish to live in strict accordance with that; in pleasant harmony with this. The former, we hope will soon afford us an effective remedy for our grievances, making partial satisfaction complete. As to the latter, thus far she has shown us justice, and we thank her for it. Never, yet has England's attitude towards us, been such as to make sinisterly ridiculous the tender appellation "mother." But, gentlemen, we are not by nature, men who will ignobly bend our shoulders to the lash. Proudly conscious of our strength and worth, we do not beg, but demand justice. And justice we must have at any cost; for should England adopt towards us, the same inhuman attitude which for centuries she held towards Ireland, there is not a true Canadian who would hesitate to fight and to die for the liberty of his home and his country.

However, such a calamity is not yet threatening, and may heaven ever avert it. Let us hope that the parent and the child may continue to walk together in the paths of peace and progress; one affording the grave advice and protection of full maturity; the other the affection and vigorous support of youth. Thus may we expect to enjoy mutual advantages and obtain most satisfactory results.

And now, gentlemen, if we look forward, Canada has bright prospects of a brilliant future. Her present advance is slow but sure, and none the less sure because slow. For, it is not the boy who shoots up with a weed-like growth, that is going to reach the hardest and most perfect manhood; on the contrary, it is he whose bones

and muscles grow gradually by proper nourishment and exercise, into that strength and symmetry which best form him to meet the toils and troubles to which manhood is exposed. It is the misfortune of some countries that they live too fast. We have known cases in history, where nations have run up the hill of greatness with such eager rapidity that their "vaulting ambition," incapable of steadying them at the dizzy summit, pressed them forward to a more precipitous descent on the other side. Such was the history of nations in the past. Conquests abroad only left an opportunity for dissensions at home. All of them took eagle flights towards the stars, regarding only the object of their pursuit, but like Icarus of old, when they had reached a certain height, the burning sun melted their waxen wings, and they fell, some crippled, others never to rise again.

Canada, too, aspires to a higher level, and there is nothing to prevent her from reaching it. But, let her continue to live and grow according to the laws of nature and under heaven's direction. Let her look back into history and guide herself by those lessons which sad experience has taught to others. Let her be true to herself; tolerant and just to her neighbors. Let her above all act in such a way as to be an honor to those mighty races from which her children have descended, and then—depend on it—when she reaches those heights of greatness to which heaven has destined her, she will rest tranquilly there, contented with her position, and a shining example to other nations. May this be the happy lot of "Canada—our Home."

Mr. Payment, the French Canadian representative, then addressed the banquetters. He said:—

"In rising to respond to this toast on behalf of the race to which I have the honor to belong, I am at no loss for material upon which to address you; rather am I encumbered by its superabundance. I speak on behalf of