

ing, as we would put it, both the Church and the State.

Our Lord shared in these feelings. He would not have been a true man had He not been a patriot. For,

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead
Who never to himself hath said—
This is my own, my native land!"

One reason why the rejection of Him by the people grieved His soul was that He saw that their blindness involved their destruction as a people. How pathetic His lamentation, "Oh, Jerusalem, how often would I have gathered thee as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not." Was there ever an expression of patriotism so intense as that of Paul—"I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh"?

2. Because a lofty individual life is seldom possible apart from a lofty national life. Everything depends on the purity of our blood, and that is as much affected by the air we breathe as by the food we eat. Now, the thoughts, feelings, words, aims, ideals or general spirit of our fellow-citizens constitute the atmosphere in which we live, move and have our being. A strong man may, to a certain extent, live his own life, but his children cannot. The language of the school, of the playground, of the street, of the market, of the shop or farm will be their language, and will inevitably mould their inner life. "The child is father of the man." The boy will inevitably be pretty much of the same moral stature as his fellows. He will share their aims and thoughts, and, "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he."

Where the public life is mean, self-seeking, and vulgar, all are degraded; where it is high, all are unconsciously elevated Godward. This was the reason why a Greek or Roman citizen felt himself immeasurably higher than a barbarian chief. Therefore, let us not forget that when we do anything for the country we are helping ourselves and our children in the best possible way.

3. Because our national and imperial citizenship is the highest upon earth. There

never was such a world-embracing empire as ours or one founded on such spiritual and, therefore, permanent principles. The essence of the British constitution is the faith that men are intended to be free, but that they can be free only as they are fit for self-government. To be governed justly is to be governed in accordance with what the highest reason and conscience of the people decide and what is then formulated into law. All men are equal before British law, and that law is the best possible expression of concrete justice. All consideration of creed, colour or clime are calmly ignored in British courts. Only in this way can the public peace be ensured, for people will be orderly only if persuaded that their rights are respected by the supreme authority. More and more too our laws are becoming the expression of kindly consideration for weak, defenceless and oppressed races and classes; and of Christian regard for the highest possible development of humanity. Justice and mercy are the ideals of the Old and New Testament respectively.

Canada has gradually grown into what may be called the position of junior partnership in the empire. We not only govern ourselves, but we have now the responsibility of governing half a continent. We can do this great work only because the might of the mother country is united with our might. Our responsibilities must increase with our privileges and as we evolve into full imperial citizenship, we must gladly bear our share in the burden of the empire which stands for liberty, justice, mercy, and peace. Sharing in such a public life, our future is full of promise.

The Frenchman will die for "La Belle France," the Russian for "Holy Russia," and the German for the "Fatherland." The Irishman's deepest prayer is "God Save Ireland," the Scotchman's "Scotland Yet," and while the Englishman unites with Shakespeare in unutterable love for "Merrie England," "this dear, dear land," Americans have willingly died by the hundred thousand for "the Union." Are we less worthy than they? Can there be a more inspiring flag than ours?

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