

PREFACE

More and more, the various attitudes of Canadians, upon questions, tendencies and movements that in recent years have come prominently to the surface in the field of Canadian politics, and are bound to affect directly the future of our beloved country, are being revealed.

These verses were written before the beginning of the present shocking occurrences in Europe and the consequent important crisis in the affairs of the British Empire, and of the whole world.

They are now sent forth with confidence as an urgent patriotic appeal to all classes of our people. They will likewise be found to contain well-meant and timely criticism of political theories and policies, which, it is felt, must prove retrogressive instead of progressive, in our national life.

To learn to estimate at their full worth the great blessings of citizenship in this fair Dominion and to live worthily up to the responsibilities of that citizenship, is the sacred duty of all Canadians; and it is only upon our meeting and fulfilling these obligations faithfully that we become really capable of forming a proper conception of what the future position of Canada should be, or of the part she should play in any possible reorganization of British states.

It should be our aim to attain to the undimmed altitude and clearness of this conception. That the best means to such an end will be found to consist in uniting all the elements of our mixed population under the inspiring banner of genuine patriotism and the appealing watchword of true Canadianism, must surely be apparent to every thinking person, and is the firm conviction of the writer.