

numerically small and weak independent Nation (and she would have been that) and, had she remained neutral, her future from the beginning would have been in peril, and, instead of escaping the entanglements of European affairs, she might and probably would have become involved in them without being as well able to take her part as she has proved herself to be as a Dominion of the Empire. If, however, her neutrality had been maintained; if she had not sent to the war the men and munitions and food and supplies which have been sent; if she had not helped in financing for munitions, food and supplies procured on this side of the Atlantic; if the glorious successes of the Canadians in Flanders and France had not been accomplished, who could have said how near Germany would now be to Victory, if Victory were not already hers, and with Germany victorious Canada would, in her eyes, be but one of those States who "have rights only" "in so far as they possess a power of resistance that must be taken into account."

This war has opened our eyes, it has shown us that no part of the world can go on without reference to the other part, and that no distance, by land or water, between Nations, can be relied on as a protection. It has shown us that the definition of a small State which I have quoted has been only too true, and that its truth will be perpetuated should Germany win the war; and it has shown us that Canada as a unit of the great British Empire is far safer, and better able to take part in the World's affairs than she could possibly be as an independent Nation. She has proven her ability and earned her right to take that part. She will never disrupt the British Empire by leaving it. She will maintain her present splendid part and advance to a more splendid future as the foremost Dominion in that great aggregate of Nations. She will take her part as of right in the control of the Foreign Affairs of the Empire and of the Empire's Army and Navy, and she will assume the corresponding obligation to share in