

French Canadian history, would be loth to see a people disappear which did the rough work of pioneering in such noble fashion. They would even recognize that the clergy, at the price of their blood freely shed in Indian villages, has purchased certain prescriptive rights to the possession of the Canadian flock. On the other hand it is apparent, and it is freely admitted by the better class of the French, that their political development was possible and their privileges obtainable under British rule alone. Not certainly in the United States where their laws and the official status of their language would disappear in a night, not under Germany which drags the sons of Frenchmen to German schools and into German ranks, nor even under old France where priests and nuns are hunted from their own doors, where according to Montalembert there never was the liberty which French Canadians have acquired under another flag.

This then is the situation of which the new Canadian patriotism must take account. Two great peoples, each representing high traditions, jealous of their dignity and their nationality, are citizens of a common country. They have fought in the field, in councils, and by their votes. The great questions which divided them in the past are no longer living issues. Both feel that the old system is insufficient, the old methods are antiquated, the old lines of demarcation obliterated. They are endeavouring to adjust themselves to the new conditions, they are seeking for new conceptions of their country, and when the solution is found they will be well on their way towards the New Canadian Patriotism.