

our country as making to the moral and civilizing forces of the world, depend, in a large measure, upon the cordial co-operation of the descendants of the two great races which now compose the bulk of our population. We, English and French, have united for all time in a political marriage, which permits of no divorce in life, and which can only be dissolved by the utter destruction of the constitution under which we have hitherto progressed and prospered; and you English-speaking Canadians of this great Province of Ontario must not forget that the French-speaking majority of your sister Province of Quebec has the undoubted constitutional right to impose the same restrictions upon the use of the English language in the schools of Quebec, which you may impose upon the use of the French language in the schools of Ontario.

But the line of the political development of each and every community is necessarily the resulting compromise between divergent tendencies, or sometimes opposing forces; and the fact that, of Canada's present population, at least two millions or more are of French descent, and that nearly a million at least are Foreign Immigrants, a majority of whom have crossed our Southern Border from the United States, must necessarily affect or modify in some measure the dominant political sentiment of this country. As for Canadians of French descent, they, as a whole, are the most intensely patriotic people of all Canada; since, having long been severed from the history, the traditions and the literature of Old France, they now know no other country, and their political affections are, first and last, centered upon Canada, the home of their fathers for many generations; and yet, by reason of their history, their traditions, and their religious teaching, they naturally adhere most tenaciously to Monarchical institutions.

In the development of all political policies for the advancement of Canadian interests, in so far as those interests are affected by the continued maintenance of our political relations with Great Britain and with the British Empire, we must first appeal in Quebec—not as in Ontario to the racial instincts of its people—but we must appeal in Quebec to reason, to considerations of Canada's vital national interests, and, if you will, to motives of political expediency, relying upon the popular sentiment in favour of the Monarchical institutions, and upon the creation and development of material and moral interests which may be held in common by Canada and by other portions of the Empire.