

will and friendship between nation and nation. In this the late monarch not only followed, but also improved, upon the example of his illustrious mother. I think it can be said that, although many years have elapsed since the day when the young girl of 18 became queen—in 1837—the world has not yet appreciated fully the beneficent influence she had upon the history of civilization. It has been said, and truly said, that with her accession to the Throne an old era was closed and a new one opened. That which was closed was the era of selfishness and gross indulgence in high quarters of society; but when she came to the Throne, she at once introduced a purity and refinement at her court, a dignity in all the relations of the Crown with its subjects, a dignity without harshness but with kindness and benevolence and a constant endeavour to promote among nations peace, harmony, goodwill and friendship. These traditions were maintained by the late king, and they are to-day the glorious heritage of the Royal family of Britain; and of that Royal family it can be said that, as men and women there are few like them in any part of the world, and as princes and princesses there are none whatever.

I heartily join my hon. friend in what he has said of the efforts of the mover and seconder of the address, my hon. friend from Ottawa (Mr. McGiverin) has told us that this is the first time a representative of that city has been called on to move or second the address. It may be said, without any disparagement of any of his predecessors, that perhaps the city of Ottawa was never before so well represented. As to the speech of my hon. friend from Kamouraska (Mr. Lapointe) a stalwart member of this House, representing one of the stalwart counties of the province of Quebec, my only regret is that the speech he delivered could not have been heard throughout the length and breadth of the country and particularly throughout the length and breadth of the province of Quebec. For depth of thought and courage of conviction, no utterance has ever been heard in this House which would rank superior to this. Let me offer him my sincere congratulations.

I am afraid I cannot go very far with my hon. friend opposite (Mr. Borden) in the observations he has favoured us with. There are certain things as to which I thought he stated quite well but did not end well. When speaking of the west, to which he referred in language I could not find fault with, he said there existed in Canada at present, as in the neighbouring republic a certain divergence between the two sections of the community. It has been observed in the United States that for many years there has been a difference of opinion, or a clash of interest, between the east and the west, and my hon. friend ob-

served the same thing with us. Well, if there is a divergence of opinion in this country between the east and the west, if there is danger in that connection, he has done nothing at any time—and certainly not to-day—to remove it.

My hon. friend referred to immigration as introducing alien elements into our country. Well, I speak within the hearing of members who represent the west, and I say that if there be any danger to Canadian nationality or British connection in the immigration which is pouring into our western provinces from all parts of Europe chiefly from the British Isles as well as the American republic, I did not find any trace of it during my visit to that country. On the contrary I was gratified to find that, under the aegis of British laws and institutions as applied by the Canadian authorities, every man who has settled in our country has been proud to become a Canadian and a British subject. There are, I am told, hundreds and thousands who came from the neighbouring republic, filled with the pride of American citizens, believing in their hearts of hearts that there was no country with institutions equal to those of the United States, but they have had to admit that the institutions of Canada are in all respects equal and in many superior to those they left behind, and they have had no hesitation in taking the oath of allegiance to His Majesty. They find there is just as much liberty and protection for life and property under British as under American laws, and are eager to take the oath of allegiance and take part in our municipal and provincial life.

It is evident that my hon. friend wished to put me in contradiction with myself on the subject of the tariff. I do not intend, on the present occasion, to go very deeply into the tariff question, for it is not a question to be decided now. Everybody realizes that it is not in a debate on the address that the tariff should be discussed. But there are certain phases of this question on which I do not hesitate to speak on this occasion. My hon. friend knows that his own friends in the west do not at all favour the policy which has been the shibboleth of the Conservative party. My hon. friend from East Grey (Mr. Sproule) interjected that remark that our chickens were coming home to roost. Why, Sir, I visited the west in 1894, sixteen years ago. We have been in office since 1896, a period of fourteen years. Chickens that come to roost only after fourteen years are a little late. When we came into office we endeavoured to redeem the pledges which we had made two years before to the people of the west and to the people of Canada generally. If it has taken the people of the west fourteen years to realize that they were unfairly treated, the wrong to which they were subjected cannot have been a very