

Monroe doctrine in case of aggression—'arise, ye Goths, and glut your ire.' Mr. Speaker, is that patriotic language—language befitting a seigneur belonging to the great feudal aristocracy of lower Canada?

I cannot close my remarks without also indulging in some literary reminiscences. As I said a few moments ago, I had the good fortune of studying under my hon. friend, who was my professor of constitutional law at Laval university. From his lips I learned to love, admire and appreciate British institutions; and looking at my copy-book the other day, I found on one of the pages—the ink was dry—I am speaking alas! of nearly twenty years ago—the definition of the British constitution imparted by my hon. friend to his students. He used the words of Edmund Burke, that great luminary of the British parliament, who was one of those statesmen who defended Canadian liberty at Westminster in days gone by. My hon. friend, the member for Jacques Cartier waxed very eloquent when addressing his students in those days. In order that we might fully appreciate the value of British institutions, he concluded his lecture with the following definition:

If the standard of moderation be sought for, I will seek for it. Where? Not in their fancies nor in my own—I will seek for it where I know it is to be found, in the constitution I actually enjoy. Here, it says to an encroaching prerogative—Your sceptre has its length. You cannot add a hair to your head, or a gem to your crown, but what an eternal law has given to it.

Here, it says to an overweening peerage—Your pride finds bank—there is a bound to the raging of the sea. Our constitution is like our island, which uses and restrains its subject sea, in vain the waves roar. In that constitution I know, and exultingly I feel both that I am free and that I am not free dangerously to myself or to others. I know that no power on earth, acting as I ought to do can touch my life, my liberty, or my property. I have that inward and dignified consciousness of my own security and independence which constitutes and which is the only thing which does constitute, the proud and comfortable sentiment of freedom in the human breast. I know too that I cannot by royal favour.

Knighthoods,

Or by popular delusion,

Monk's speeches.

Or by oligarchical cabal, elevate myself above a certain very limited point so as to endanger my own fall, or the ruin of my country. I know there is an order that keeps things fast in their places; it is made to us, and we are made of it.

This is the clearest definition ever given of the British constitution and all that it conveys. I think my friend from Jacques Cartier (Mr. Monk), my heart is

Mr. LEMIEUX.

full of gratitude to him. He, with the right hon. gentleman who leads the government, in my younger days taught me to love and to revere British institutions. How amazed I am to find him speaking on a subject and advocating a policy which if it were carried through—but thank Heavens it will not be—would go against the very principles enunciated by him twenty years ago. The French Canadians in the province of Quebec are the proud possessors of all the advantages described in the words of Burke. They intend to maintain and to treasure those advantages and privileges by doing their duty like men and like patriots towards their country and towards their King. Doing their duty towards their King and towards their country, I claim, Sir, that they are also doing their duty towards God Almighty.

On motion of Mr. Middlebro, the debate was adjourned.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER moved the adjournment of the House.

Mr. SPROULE. The debate, I presume, goes on to-morrow?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. No. To-morrow the Minister of Railways, who is very anxious to finish his estimates, as the Deputy Minister is leaving the service, will proceed with them. The debate will not be resumed until Tuesday.

Mr. FIELDING. To-morrow we might also take up the item for French relief.

Motion agreed to, and House adjourned at 12.50 o'clock a.m., Friday.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FRIDAY, February 4, 1910.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

### OFFICIAL REPORT OF DEBATES.

Mr. GERVAIS moved that the second report of the Select Standing Committee to supervise the official report of the Debates of the House be concurred in.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Explain.

Mr. GERVAIS. This is the report of the Debates Committee recommending the appointment of Mr. Desaulniers as translator in place of Mr. Laferrière who died a few days ago. The Debates Committee make the recommendation to the House and hope that it will be concurred in.