

frankness in his History, announce but one message. At the National Festivities held for many years on the 24th of June in Eastern, Western and Southern centres there was but one theme. I look through Chouinard's *Fête Nationale des Canadiens-Français, célébrée à Québec, de 1881 à 1889*, and I find five hundred pages of manifestoes, letters and speeches. Many of these appeals are really eloquent. They are all in earnest. From cover to cover the same few capital ideas are inculcated, union, fidelity to the French language, to French institutions, to the Church. The fundamental conception of a Catholic French nationality in North America is never forgotten. I do not suppose there is another example to be found of a like concentration of national energy on the conservation of national characteristics.

With the national aspirations of the French Canadian people the English Canadians no longer have any quarrel. There was a time when they hoped that the two races might be welded into one and that the French language might disappear from Canada. No sane man dreams of such a thing now. When sixty thousand people grow in five generations to more than two millions and advance from timid reclamations to a bold stand on the basis of equal rights, it is quite evident that the time to talk of absorption has gone and gone for ever. The French language has won for itself *droit de cité*. There are still some (they used to be heard through the Toronto Mail) who view with apprehension the rise of a nationality in imperfect sympathy with British institutions, but the more thoughtful Canadians, those who have studied