

CANADA'S DEBT TO THE MISSIONARY.

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I suppose it may be assumed here that Canada is now a nation. We are in possession of all the chief attributes of nationhood. We are free. We are self-governing. And what is more, we feel within us the stirrings, the ambitions, the hopes of national life. And this, let me say in passing, is the highest destiny to which we can be called, the greatest thing we can achieve in this world, because it is the instrument, the means of all other great achievements.

And we feel that, though the latest of the nations we are by no means the least; rather are we the Benjamin of the family, possessing a sevenfold portion of all the good things of life. Fronting the greatest oceans, the Atlantic and the Pacific, and facing the greatest continents, Europe and Asia, and possessing resources that are beyond the dreams of avarice in sea and river, in plain and mountain, the heir of all the ages in the foremost files of time, we feel that it is in our power to become one of the great nations of the earth.

And already our place has been marked out for us; already there are obligations resting upon us in the natural order of things. We are daughter in our mother's house though mistress in our own; we feel by natural instinct that we have a share in the honor, the safety, the success of the Motherland. And as a sister in the family that makes up the British Empire, we feel by natural instinct that we are sharers in a world-wide heritage and in world-wide obligations.