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~~This thought~~ ^{statement}, I believe, describes more adequately than any other what is being felt throughout Canada to-day. It is not so much the nation's sense of loss;—that came when, over five years ago, Mr. Fielding's presence was withdrawn from the House of Commons, ^{rather is} ~~it is~~ ⁱⁿ a consciousness of gain that a life so truly great and noble should have come once more into its own.

We can speak of Mr. Fielding without reserve to-day, for he is no longer the exclusive possession of a party or ^a province. His memory is in the keeping of his countrymen without respect of race or creed or party. None will deny that history will award him a place of highest honour among ~~that great group of~~ ^{them} devoted statesmen, whose faith and courage have helped to establish the firm foundation of a Canadian nation as ^a part of the great British commonwealth of nations.

The country is fortunate indeed that can produce a statesman of the character and attainments of Mr. Fielding. It is given to few men to leave behind them a record of public service so conspicuous for its duration and for its enduring

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