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It is, in fact, even more manifest, as we shall show later ; for in his attitude towards the menace of the United States the French-Canadian, according to Mr. Bourassa, exhibits all the "optimism" of the rabbit before the boa-constrictor. But to proceed :

How thoroughly and exclusively Canadian the French Canadian is should never be forgotten by those who contemplate any change in the constitutional or national status of Canada. This is so patent a fact, so logical a consequence of historical developments, that nothing short of absolute ignorance or wilful blindness can justify the language of those who talk of drawing him either by persuasion or by force to a closer allegiance to the Empire.

He is not to be "induced to accept a closer union with Great Britain and the Empire" ; he is not "ready to follow the rest of the British world in a deep evolution, and assume new imperial burdens" ; he will not accept "new obligations towards the Empire," for the very plain reason that "by the Empire he does not feel that he has any duty to perform." And in holding these views he considers himself to be in advance of "his English, Scotch, or Irish fellow citizens, who, in his mind, are but partially *Canadianised*." His legislation, however, in favour of the Protestant minority (in his own province of Quebec) "has always been of the most generous character," and he is "desirous of giving to his British fellow citizen personal proofs of confidence and goodwill" ; he is "anxious to live on friendly terms and"—Mr. Bourassa adds significantly—"to co-operate for the welfare of Canada."

Such is the present situation, depicted in courageous and unmistakable language. It is one, upon the whole, pleasant to contemplate, and we have been glad to lay to heart both the warnings and the encouragement to be derived from it ; our discussions on South African policy since the war have been largely conducted by reference to the history of Canada. But after all Canada is more interesting for her own sake than even for the sake of South Africa ; it is with regard to her own destiny that Mr. Bourassa forces a doubt upon us. Is it possible that a vast territory and a great nation can ever