

same want of perspective that is with us to-day will not render it impossible to attempt this task, people may be able to see more fully and realize and thus describe more fully the great effect and influence upon the world at large of the reign of Queen Victoria and the influence of her personality upon the people of all nations. Therefore, I say that it is unwise for us, perhaps, to attempt to put before the world, or before ourselves, indeed, for our consideration anything in the way of a full description of her life work. It is present to our minds and thoughts and memories as far as may be at the present time. But this we may do: We may rejoice that wherever the name and the fame of Queen Victoria has penetrated, there she is loved and revered. We may rejoice that all over this world, in civilized and uncivilized countries, the name of Queen Victoria was loved and revered, and, as was fully stated in the

British House of Commons a few days ago, even those who loved not her empire loved and revered her. And, as we know, all nations of the earth have joined in testimony of their feelings in this respect. Christian and pagan, Moslem and Buddhist, have joined in one vast array, which has testified in various ways to the world's bereavement and the sorrow which exists everywhere—a sorrow which, I may be pardoned for saying, was, if possible, accentuated and emphasized by a dissenting voice proceeding from a locality where, temporarily, vice reigns supreme on the municipal throne. But the effect was simply to accentuate the unanimous verdict of the nations of the earth with regard to a world-wide bereavement.

#### The Greatest Earthly Ruler.

While we cannot estimate the life-work of Queen Victoria for humanity, we can, at any rate, come to this conclusion, and are justified in doing so, I think—that while great benefactors of the human race have arisen, and while eras which have preceded her era have been full of prosperity and advancement, so far as the British people are concerned, at any rate, and while history furnishes many instances of the lives and work of men and women which have been of the greatest possible advantage to humanity, we can reasonably allege and believe that since the creation of the world no human being has lived upon this earth from whose acts and love and personality have gone out so much of good to all her fellow human beings as from the great Queen, the great Monarch whose loss we so deeply deplore. In this respect all nations have joined together.

#### Facing the Future.

So we say, then, that while we sorrow, our sorrow is not without its silver lining. We say that while we sorrow for the remembrance of the great Sovereign who has gone, and while we realize that the great public qualities which she brought to bear on the exercise of her public duty brought more clearly into view her virtues as a woman, a wife, and a

mother, we can face the future with equanimity. Therefore we say, we greet King Edward, offering him our condolence, as expressed by the motion, and we say that we have nothing to fear for the future under the reign of a man, like himself, of great spirit, of great knowledge of the world, and with that infinite tact which was a remarkable attribute of his lamented mother. With a man possessed of these qualities coming to the throne, as he has come, all the circumstances point to a wise and prosperous reign.

One of the ablest men in the United States to-day, a man who occupies a high position in public life there, and one who has had many opportunities of gauging the qualities of the ruler of Great Britain and Ireland, has declared him to be one of the wisest, if not the wisest, of the public men of Europe. If that be true, and we believe it to be true, then we here, as his subjects, realize what the testimony means as coming from such a source, and also as given by his Majesty himself a few days ago, when he declared that he proposed to follow the example of his mother as long as breath remained in his body, and did not hesitate to express his determination for the future in his homely Anglo-Saxon way. We then may, I say, feel confident that in looking forward to the future we shall have nothing to fear in a constitutional sense, and all signs may be considered as pointing to a wise and prosperous reign.

#### Greeting to the King.

We must not forget, also, that gentle lady, the present Queen, whose popularity among all peoples in Britain was only exceeded by her whose loss we mourn to-day. Therefore it is that we greet our King (and we greet our new Queen) as the descendant and representative of a long line of illustrious Sovereigns. We greet him as the descendant and representative of Briton and Dane, Norman and Saxon, Plantaganet and Tudor, Stuart and Guelph, and last, but not least, as the son of Victoria, our beloved Queen. We offer to him freely and affectionately our fealty and homage. And then, as it was customary in other times to say to other Edwards, we say of him, we put our hands in his hands and we offer him our fealty and homage. We declare ourselves to be his men, and say, with thankfulness for the past and confidence in the future, "God save our lord the King."

No other member offering to speak on the motion, the Speaker read the resolution while the House stood in reverent silence. The address to his Majesty, as proposed by the Premier, was then adopted. It read as follows:—

#### The Resolution.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty: Most Gracious Sovereign—We, your Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to approach your Majesty for the purpose of expressing the deep sorrow felt by this House and by the people of the Province of Ontario with your Majesty, with our gra-