

you like to be amused. As Dr. Martin Luther puts it in the famous song which bears his name :—

“Who loves not woman, dance and song,
He is a fool his whole life long.”

I believe there is a trifling difference in my version, but it conveys Dr. Luther's real meaning anyway as well as the original. Now, here I must interpose a caution. Don't mistake or misunderstand me. I have no sympathy with idlers. Canada is a bad place for them, whether they are rich or poor. (Loud applause.) I hold firmly to the good old doctrine, “Learn and labour truly to get your own living,” even if I don't insist on the latter part of the clause, “to be content in the station you happen to be placed in,” at least in the sense of dissuading you from trying to rise higher if you can do so honestly. To maintain yourselves honestly is your first duty, no doubt; but that done, you have a right (and it is in one sense your duty to yourselves) to go in for

A FAIR SHARE OF HONEST AMUSEMENT.

Sir, I spoke a little while ago of two errors which I conceive to have attained to the magnitude of national faults. This other, the incapacity to amuse ourselves, or the neglect to provide proper opportunities for amusement, appears, in some quarters, to approach to a national want. Perhaps our inaptitude is inherited? I partly think it is. Centuries ago Froissart observed of the English “that they took their pleasure sadly after the custom of their nation,” and our French friends are always twitting us that we John Bulls know how to make money, but (*sacrebleu*) we don't know how to spend it or enjoy ourselves. I have heard a good many of my country friends complain of the double exodus which they say is going on in Canada, from the farm to the city, and from the city to the United States, and hint broadly that too much education was the cause. Now, my view is that the real cause is not too much education, but too little. We are educating our people enough to create a craving for a wider and larger life than Canada, in farm or city, at present affords, and we are not educating them quite perfectly enough to enable them to satisfy those natural cravings at home. (Applause.) Then there is another side to it. Our temperance friends just now are engaged in a sort of crusade, having for its object to make the people of Canada a sober and temperate people. The object is a noble one. I commend their zeal, but to their zeal let them add knowledge also. It may be that their object will be better attained by a flank movement than by an attack in front. They