

## The Missionary Spirit.

---



ANADA'S future greatness has come to be a very popular topic of discussion among us. The leading dailies of our Dominion seldom let a week go by without some editorial comment upon our growing importance. All are agreed that a glorious destiny is ours, some even predict that this fair young land of the maple leaf will yet surpass in wealth and commercial importance our big republican brother to the South. Canadian statesmen paint in glowing colors the advantages which our country offers to students and workers in every department of human endeavor. "The twentieth century belongs to Canada" has become our slogan. Foreign nations are taking up the cry, and to-day the eyes of the world are centred upon Canada, the premier colony of the British Empire, as well as her acknowledged granary. If, fifty years ago, the United States held the attention of European nations as a model of material and commercial progress, we are the centre of that attention to-day, and our lot it appears to be, to relieve the congestion of population of those older European countries, whose poor especially gaze with longing eyes towards our far-off shores, knowing that here there is space to live and breathe, here there is work for willing hands, here the great boon of British-Canadian citizenship is extended to all alike. Canadians themselves realize their happy position, hence it is not surprising that statesmen and journalists, in fact all classes of people, should be inclined to discuss the future. However, if to-day we are happy and prosperous, with bright prospects of even greater things to come, we owe it to a beneficent Providence rather than to any great merits of our own. If the soil is surpassing fertile, the timber and mineral lands rich beyond comparison, then it is little thanks to us if we but turn to our own advantage the wealth so generously heaped upon us. Realizing our immense possibilities, then gratitude, not pride, should fill our hearts, and the thought uppermost in our minds should be: let us as a nation do something for the glory of God, who has done so much for us. In our mad rush after dollars and cents we are in danger of losing sight of the main factor in nation-building,—the fact that a people who fear and love God is to be preferred to a nation of millionaires. We have the experience of ages to work upon, and heavy is our responsibility. The rocks upon which other ships of state have