

children that the eastern Canadian moulds the West. He is commonly in the majority there, usually well to the fore, keen, apt, and steadfast in working the only institutions he knows, hence largely the instructor of surrounding immigrants in operating his native system. If he supplies much of the positive Canadianism, the institutions supply the machinery which promotes that *ism* by almost mechanically transforming newcomers to Canadian purposes. Such is the incessant effect of providing readymade conveniences for communal association in respect of all such local needs as schools, roads, bridges, public halls, waterworks, lighting plant—association which merges the individual with the municipal, provincial, and federal lives, so confirming Canada, and perennially creating new factors for her widening growth. It is as when bees are unstinted of readymade comb; they accept it gladly, pack its cells with their wealth, and swarm against disturbance. An effect of the principles of freedom well applied is that they work in the West just as we have always seen them working in the East. When the native visitor has seen and considered these things on the prairies he knows exactly where he is. He is at Home. He sees the identity of the Man on the Plains with the Boy who came out of the Eastern woods into the clearance, facing toward the Pacific ocean. Thereafter he is disturbed by no doubt about what the West will do with Canada.

The persistence of Canada as a separate political entity in North America is but partly explained by the sentiment for British connexion, by that of our French brethren for conservation of their racial distinction, and by that for continuance apart from the Republic. We continue by the momentum acquired from having proceeded in adaptation to our prime political circumstances, from treating them as fixed, making the best of them, gaining by habit the motive instinct on our own course. This instinct resembles that of the individual human creature for self preservation, which is manifested by eating, and drinking, and performing other bodily functions, somewhat as sedulous employment of their