

felt free there to dwell on the orchards of Welland, the Ottawa lumber town, or the happy redlands about Orwell Bay, with a fondness as of the old lament for "the lone shieling on the misty island."

One morning in Vancouver, rising early to visit the Great Trees before train-time, the traveller sought direction from a passing graybeard, who immediately challenged with: "I'm thinking you're from Nova Scotia by the looks of you:"—"Well, I've been there. What part are you from?" It was enough. As the two walked on together—O the Annapolis Valley, and O the Bluenoses prospering about Vancouver town! The Nova Scotian, under the word of sympathy, went discharging his native heart with a fervour as tenacious as the Ancient Mariner holding his auditor against the loud bassoon. Even Manitoba,—to us easterners so new, so western—one often hears mentioned in Saskatchewan, or Alberta, or on the coast, as the dear old home. "I was born East," said an Edmonton driver, "in Brandon." He contemplated Manitoba as The Old Country.

Such recollections are political bonds to migrant natives, as they cannot be to immigrants. Our own prairie people have but changed to another Canadian county. To my vision Canada moves westward as the banyan tree spreads—if one may be permitted to adapt that venerable symbol of the British Empire—sending out new branches that drop new perpendicular supports, that send down new roots that feed the uprights, that become new forthputting trees, and yet ever remain part of the same old banyan. Cut a group of trunks and branches loose from the first parent of all—there are two equally independent banyans, and a good chance that they may spread and act as if still merged. The proper business of those who value both is to take care that the parts shall have full liberty to evince their banyan nature. Try turning all the branches back to intertwining with the original trunk, and you risk providing evanescent firewood, instead of maintaining a boundless contiguity of shade.

It is not merely by fostering native sentiment in his