

United Empire Loyalists

When speaking of the Loyalists we generally think of this neighborhood but Professor Wilbur H. Siebert, M. A., of Ohio State University, Columbus, has written a number of papers which appear in six or seven pamphlets which describe the flights of the Loyalists to places as far apart as West Florida, Upper Canada, Quebec and Great Britain. Part of this paper I gain from Prof. Siebert's accurate description for which he has spared no pains to gain a full account. The places are: 1st, West Florida; 2nd, Great Britain; 3rd, Gaspé; 4th, Machiche; 5th, Seignories in the Province of Quebec; 6th, Penobscot and Passamaquoddy; 7th, The Loyalists and Indians in the District of Niagara. It is not my intention to take up the story of the causes of the Revolutionary War, the seven years of contest between Britain and her colonies, who was right and who was wrong in a partisan spirit. We know something of the bitter spirit of both parties but we rejoice to see that the best of the historians of the United States have acknowledged the cruel treatment meted out to the Loyalists. We know that they were driven out, that they were seized, imprisoned, shot down, in some cases tarred and feathered, their property taken from them, proscribed, spoken of with abusive language. Prof. Siebert gives a mere statement without expressing any opinion as to the right or wrong, does not argue the case but just tells plainly the story of the exodus of the Loyalists. Owen Wister's book "Let the old grudge die" is written in an admirable spirit, speaks of the foolish and wrong things that are spoken even in the present day. But it must have been a strong feeling of loyalty that caused ten thousand people to leave homes of