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But, beautiful and gorgeous as the snug little town of Jasper may be, and delightful as it is to the eye of the most critical, it is but the gate-way to an illimitable paradise. Lakes, brooks and rivers are in abundance, all teeming with fish, and the angler who is familiar with the delights inseparable from "casting the fly," will find here sport such as he never dreamed of. The hunter will also find a surfeit of game, for it must be remembered that this is a new land, and possibly the last new land the world will ever disgorge.

But what of the ordinary visitor; the visitor who comes out of the merest curiosity and with a desire to associate with the beauties of Nature and revel in the solitudes of this amazing territory? What is there to induce such to travel here; what is there that will divert the mind from the countless problems of the big city, the cares and anxieties of a business-life overflowing with anxiety and worry? The answer is simple as well as convincing: Concealed within this wonderland are the very antidotes and cures for all the mental and many of the physical ailments which afflict mankind. Nothing is more calculated to restore the faded and enfeebled human system than the health-giving air fresh from the remote, snow-capped sentinels. These old warriors of a million years have unlimited stores of Nature's health-giving elixir on hand, and they never fail to distribute the same with a lavish hand. The toil-worn wreck from afar, speedily assumes a new lease of life, and just as speedily forgets all about the torpor which travelled here with him. From the very first, a keenness of eye and a sharpness of appetite tell their own tale, and before many days are over, the complaints of physical debility and mental deficiency are conspicuously absent.

The reason for this is self-evident to the thinking man. Nature cures her own children of their childish complaints. She takes them by the hand and leads them into paths wherein are to be found inspiration after inspiration; she shows them the unsullied and entrancing delights which she has painted with a generous hand. Over that vast valley-land she points to a hoary-headed giant bathed in the magnificence of the western sun, and beyond that an infinity of nameless mountain-tops which guard, like leviathan sentinels, the passes, valleys and gorges of this incomparable land. Entranced

with the beauties, and amazed at its extent, the shop-soiled denizen of the throbbing city forgets his own troubles and ailments, and, in that period of forgetfulness, Nature effects her most effective, her most marvellous and most permanent cures.

The question the writer asked himself as he first gazed on this wonderful country was, "why is it that so few Canadians trouble to stop off and revel in the glories which are so unstintedly placed at their disposal, instead of passing through on their way to some other territory far less worthy, far less beautiful, far more sullied and far more distant."

It is the old cry: "Distance lends enchantment." Lands and resorts which are crowded to suffocation with a conglomerated mass of seething and burdened humanity are the havens to which tens of thousands travel, under a vague impression that, because others go, they should be there. In other words, they prefer to let others do their thinking for them; they prefer to travel with the crowd.

It is all a mighty mistake, and they learn this when it is frequently too late. They select some crowded holiday "resort" for their vacation, and invariably spend an uncountable amount of money and time in getting there, only to find that they have been but adding further proof to the well-worn aphorism regarding the substance and the shadow. They return to the city little the better for the change, and frequently a whole lot the worse. This goes on unceasingly, year in, year out, until one almost despairs of persuading the Canadian peoples to take Nature's medicine as dispensed at their own door in quantities out of all proportion to the available number of patients. Fortunately, by a system of wise legislation, vast areas of this Western Wonderland are preserved in perpetuity for the people, so that that vast play-grounds will always be at the disposal of the people. But the writer urges, and takes all the responsibility for so doing, that the monotony of the prairies and of Eastern Canada is relieved and removed by a brief stay in one or other of the delightful terrestrial havens of refuge snugly ensconced in this Western Wonderland, round which the silent sentinels of ages past stand in eternal vigil.

## The Scot as a Pioneer in Eastern Canada

Written for The Western Home Monthly by Prof. Norman Macdonald, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg

**S**OCIAL phenomenon of far-reaching consequences to Canada was the immigration of so many Scotsmen during the last quarter of the eighteenth and the first quarter of the nineteenth century, the cumulative effects of which are still leavening every phase of our national activity. The foundations of Canadian institutions were laid in the humble homes of those hardy pioneers in the backwoods of eastern Canada; and under social and economic conditions as different from ours as theirs were from the life they left behind them in Scotland. This article, by the very limitations of editorial space, merely glances, in a general way, at some of the causes and consequences of that immigration.

It is interesting to trace the origin of that stream of immigration that saved Canada for Britain. It arose in the Highlands of Scotland in 1773, gaining volume as the pioneers were later joined by their friends, until finally that tiny rivulet became a mighty river, that deepened and widened with time, overflowing its banks to the prairies and the Pacific. From every strath and moor and island fastness in the Highlands men flocked by the thousands to the new world to wrest a living from its untamed forests or die of fever in its swamps; from Lowland glens and cities, from village and farm and every known trade emigrants swarmed to the wilderness of towering pines. They severed the sacred ties of home and kindred, braved the horrors of a sea voyage under unsanitary conditions that were indescribably loathsome, into a land where the foolish and feeble soon perished, and only the strong and the industrious survived. The story of the struggles of those brave, fearless pioneers, whenever written, will form a glorious epic in the annals of Canada. In that

story, the Scot will occupy a leading position as the pioneer in what seemed a forlorn hope, in which to the total ignorance of local conditions, it must be remembered that the first settlers had to do everything for themselves. They did not inherit a civilisation, or the improvements of centuries, they had to create them.

In the New World they had to adapt themselves to new and strange conditions. The utter lack of transportation facilities compelled the pioneers to locate along the bays and rivers. This was particularly true of conditions in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Quebec, and even of Upper Canada until the land companies, or private individuals, such as Talbot, Selkirk and Dickson, began operations on a large scale. The rivers, lochs and bays not only made communication possible in an isolation hard to endure, they also provided food for the hungry. Only gradually, as improvements were made, or other factors entered, could the immigrant be persuaded to locate away from the water front. A few instances are on record where surveyors stumbled across settled and cultivated tracts of land in what was a terra incognita to civil authorities, and wondered "who induced all these men and women to leave remote glens of Scotland and settle in these remote corners of Canada." In time, the home government considered emigration as a relief to domestic grievances, of a social and economic character. Ships were placed at the disposal of intending emigrants, virgin forest cleared, log-houses built, tools supplied, seed-corn and provisions provided for one year. In other cases, the government formed definite settlements of Scotsmen, on a huge scale, as in Lanark, Ramsay, Perth, Dalhousie, N. Sherbrooke, etc., where tools, rations and a specific sum of money