

whose misty sense eludes the grasp of thought, or in those poetic word-plays from which all sense is absent, it can charm by the melodious, bird-like harmony of sweet sounds. In its literature it covers the whole round of human thought and presents names that are unrivalled. While ink and paper last it will stand forth allied with the names of those who were the champions of both liberty and law. It is tied to the chariot of no blighting tyranny. To aspiring thoughtfulness in lands of heathen darkness it is the only channel through which flows, in due proportion, all that is true in science, profound in philosophy, wise and just in law, and healthful in religion. The welfare of the world lies chiefly in its hands. Its preservation in Canada, as the predominant means of promoting our civilization, is of the most undoubted importance. There are far-reaching influences at work that threaten that preservation in the future. Not to politics must we look for the power to uphold the interests that centre in the English language, but to religion, the deepest source of human action, for good or ill. Let the different sects of English Christians find a common ground of union in the principles of the time when spiritual life was not lost, and when unity was still preserved; and, united on such ground, the English-speaking race will preserve for future generations that healthful type of Christianity which exists nowhere else but where our English speech prevails.

AVALANCHE PATHS.

BY PROF. A. P. COLEMAN, UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA COLLEGE, COBOURG.

ACROSS the Columbia, a few miles from my camp, rose a peak of the Selkirks, not of the first rank perhaps, yet large enough to fill a wide space on the retina and cut off with its dark bulk a great arc of the sunset color in the evening. The faint summer haze, like a veil that gives suggestiveness to beauty, softened yet revealed the broad outlines of its structure with a delicate distinctness. Beneath the fresh snow of the