

leads away from God, but as in the rude times of Samuel, inspiration and education worked harmoniously towards a larger life, as the results of Greek thought aided in the development of Christian theology, as the

SRTATHROY, ONT.

humanities of the Renaissance formed the prophetic outburst of the Reformation, so will God give to us men of faith who will teach us that He is the God of light as well as the God of love.—*Canada Presbyterian*.

## IMMIGRATION AND THE INCREASE OF POPULATION.

SYDNEY G. FISHER takes up, in *Appleton's Popular Science Monthly*, the thesis recently discussed in another magazine by Gen. Francis A. Walker—"Has Immigration Increased Population?" Mr. Fisher, like General Walker, answers that question in the negative. He contends that the lowering of the rate of native growth was due to the increase of foreigners, and that if the native population had kept up an increase per decade of only 34 per cent, which was less than it had in the twenty years 1790 to 1810, and immigration had ceased, the white population would now be more numerous than it has become with the assistance of immigration.

The men who fought the revolution and created the United States were almost exclusively native. The population of New England, as is well known, was produced out of an original immigration of not much over 20,000, all of whom arrived before the year 1640. From 1640 until 1820, a period of nearly 200 years, the growth of New England was entirely by births among the native stock. There was no immigration worth mentioning, but, on the contrary, an overflow into the neighboring colonies, New York, and the West. Franklin, writing in 1751, when the population of all the colonies was about 1,000,000, said that the immigration which had pro-

duced this number was generally believed to have been less than 80,000. With the beginning of the century the modern immigration movement began, and by 1830 it had grown to be formidable. It provoked the native American or know-nothing movement in the forties, and stimulated it until, in 1850, it crystallized into a separate National party, which in 1856 nominated a separate ticket for the Presidency. It was taken for granted, both by the know-nothing leaders and by those who opposed them, that the large influx of immigrants would enormously raise the rate of increase of our population. This was predicated upon the remarkably rapid increase by births among the first colonists, to which Benjamin Franklin called the attention of the learned men of his time.

The early colonists in some parts of the country, without the aid of immigration, doubled their numbers within 25 years. If such a rapid rate of growth had been attained, unaided by immigration, it was argued that, when supplemented by immigration, a still more astounding rate of increase would follow. Thomas Jefferson in 1815 predicted that the American people would number 80,000,000 by the year 1875. At that rate of progress our population to-day would considerably exceed 100,000,000. But that prophecy has not been fulfilled, and it is now evident that