

QUEBEC'S WEALTH

A people whose accomplishments are so worthy and honorable surely deserve more of our attention, especially when their only apparent fault is that they have been content to mind their own business and not even make effort to vindicate themselves when vilified, which has been often.

A Great Change

During the last ten years many changes have taken place in Quebec, and this apparently unnoticed by even their nearest neighbor, Ontario. This may be natural on account of the splendid advances made by this province, requiring all the attention possible, but there is really no excuse for the general ignorance that prevails respecting the province of Quebec, and its people the French Canadians. Such ignorance will prove fatal to their best interests from a trade standpoint, because while Ontario sleeps, Quebec is very much awake, and while securing their home trade, are fast taking advantage of Ontario's English market. It would seem therefore, to be high time for the English speaking people of Canada and America to "wake up" to the vast possibilities of Quebec and her splendid resources.

The fact remains that while the people of Ontario are gradually discarding their prejudices and seeking to know more of the French Canadian, fully 80% of the people of Ontario hold very antiquated and silly notions of the French Canadian. This is due in part to the following influences :—

(1) Lack of interest and desire to be informed.

(2) Prejudice, so sadly fostered by the English Press—being English in every sense and catering to an English community to whom they look for increase of circulation, it is often libelous in its statements.

(3) The indifference or "mind our own business policy" of the average French Canadian, who scorns the idea of answering back.

Thus it happens the people hear of the morbid and vicious side of Quebec through the pages of a morbid and vicious press, appealing to the morbid and vicious senses of the people they cater to. The wonder is that anyone can be found willing to confess that any good thing could come from Quebec. Fortunately, this is an age of travel, and while many tourists seek out the habitant in far remote