

## Our Own Land

itself shall not stand. There is not now and there cannot be any question that must ever be allowed to go beyond the domain of misunderstanding. Our schools and higher educational institutions have made it impossible for the demagogue to rule or the agitator to govern. The enlightened intelligence of our legislators and parliaments asserts itself above the storm of agitation and commands peace that this country may calmly pursue its great destiny. For never was there in the settlement of nations found such splendid material to the building up of a great Dominion as that which Providence has placed upon our territory. Here the daring sons of Japhet, the sons of liberty-loving races, have from the forests carved out their homes and hewed for themselves an abiding place. The stalwart and broad-shouldered Scotch, the slow-thinking but irresistible English, the imaginative and high-spirited Irish, with the cheerful and hospitable French-Canadian, are daily coalescing, and from their loins there is begotten a race that, if true to itself, must be the greatest the world has ever seen. We are practically the last of the Japhetic migrants settling our great western plains and foothills and realizing the vision of the far seeing Bishop Berkley, we exclaim with him

*"Westward the star of empire takes its way,  
The first four acts already passed,  
The fifth shall close the drama of the day!  
Earth's noblest empire is the last."*

Let us, therefore, gather up the records, the traditions, the writings, the maps and every fragment of historical value, and, when they are spread out for the examination of our people, we will have no reason to be ashamed, but every motive to be proud of our glorious traditions.

SPEECH of DEAN HARRIS, delivered at the "OLD BOYS" Meeting  
at Beamsville, Ontario, Monday, September 3rd, 1900