

undertaking, and that some would rather desire to be excluded from it; in which case Dr. Joos only asks that they might be allowed to place separate Cantons in the position occupied by the Federal Council in relation to the lands and upon the same terms.

I trust that I have been able in this brief epitome of several conferences to explain clearly the nature of the scheme which Dr. Joos suggests for the consideration of the Government. It is undoubtedly one of a novel, and in some respects, perhaps, startling character; and the first question that occurs upon its presentation is whether, supposing it were adopted, it would be likely to be accepted by the Federal or Cantonal Governments of Switzerland. With reference to this I had to make enquiries with regard to Dr. Joos's standing amongst his fellows and in the country, and am bound to say that all these enquiries were of a satisfactory character.

Through the kind instrumentality of Mr. Corbett, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Berne, whose courtesy and attention to all the subjects connected with the interests of Canada which I brought before him, I cannot sufficiently acknowledge, I learned that Dr. Joos was a gentleman of considerable influence, especially in the locality near which he resides, namely, Schaffhausen.

I saw some leading politicians and statesmen of Switzerland, some of whom appeared to take an interest in the opinions of Dr. Joos, though they had not yet made up their minds as to the course which they would pursue in regard to them. But I believe Dr. Joos has sufficient influence at least to carry any proposals he might seriously make, in some of the Cantons; if indeed he might not excite discussions which would lead to the practical consideration of the question by the Federal Council.

I have already acknowledged the attention and aid afforded to me by Mr. Corbett, the diplomatic representative of the British Government at Berne, and should add that he expressed to me in the kindest manner his anxiety to render every assistance in his power in any matter which the Government of Canada might desire to have brought to the attention of the Federal Government.

It is now my duty to make a few remarks in the light of the general information which I possess of emigration matters in Europe, upon Dr. Joos's propositions, and I submit for your consideration the opinions I have formed upon them.

As regards Switzerland, it differs from adjacent Continental countries, with the exception of Italy, in permitting a perfect freedom in