

Canadians however—that the spirit of what is called economy, but falsely so called, is nowhere given so much scope as in cutting down the salaries of teachers, and the expenses of our schools. Spirit of economy! rather spirit of ignorance; spirit most opposed to the interests of the people. You want to reduce taxation; and how? By increasing ignorance, by stinting your children's chiefest friends, by giving as few advantages as you can to your sons and daughters, by rearing a half educated population? That is not economy. That is not the spirit that inspired our ancestors; that is not the spirit that made Scotland great, and enabled the sons of the peasantry to be the companions of kings, and to rule over empires. And in no way perhaps could this Society, and others, do more good than by providing a bursary by which some poor but talented young Scotchman might be sent to college and become the accomplished teacher of future generations.

But in the *third* place. Our people have borne a character for intelligence, for perseverance under difficulty, for patience in pursuing the object they had in view, for economy, for the purity and order of their family life.

Of the former of these elements of character mentioned, I have not time to speak, I would only say, I don't know where we could find a better illustration of these than in the colonial life of Scotland's sons and daughters.

COLONIAL LIFE.

How many banished from home by stress of circumstances, by the influence of wrongs and oppressions that still linger in this age of professed enlightenment, the curse of our country, or to seek an outlet for their energies, and a wider sphere for their children, have come here to Canada and gone into the unbroken forests, and set up their homes in the deep shadow of the woods, and yet in the course of a single generation, by their own strong arm, have built up for themselves comfortable homes, the abodes of independence and plenty, an honor to the country of their adoption. The difficult but peaceful battle with the trees of the forest, with the stern difficulties of pioneer life, are as worthy of the poet's song, as the wider battlefields of history in which the nations boast. In many a settler's hut, in many a humble home, in many a lowly dwelling in the villages and towns of an earlier period, our fathers and mothers lived lives of quiet patient heroism, the memory of which we should not willingly let die. These days gave scope for all possible strength of body or mind, for the exercise of all the highest qualities of human nature. And they of whatever nation, who had the mind and body which grows up amongst a free, intelligent and religious peasantry, *they* conquered in the laborious contest. And in the comfort of their declining years, in the provision made for their families, in the enjoyment of the liberty and peace of this glorious Dominion of Canada, than which there is no finer or freer country in the world, they enjoy an abundant reward.

NATURAL VIRTUES.

But of the virtues I referred to, there is none, it is said, that a Scotchman takes more kindly than the virtue of economy. In the exercise of this they cannot be surpassed by any nation under heaven; and so long as this virtue is not unduly exercised in reference to the support of religion or education it is not much to be objected to. Rightly to use what we have, whether it be money, or anything else, is a very high attainment. But I wish to speak a moment of another economy. That word, like many another, has fallen from its original and wider meaning. It literally means the management of the house—the law of the house—and I think it is to this feature in our country's life, as much, perhaps, as to any other,—the Christian government and management of the family, that our nation owes much of her moral and spiritual power. Among no people, perhaps has family religion been more encouraged and insisted upon, as an essential feature of the Christian life. It is the proper regulation of family life that is the source of a country's well-being. Irreligious, disordered