

a fair criticism, since the education obtained in this way is general enough, and broad enough, to be beneficial, no matter what occupation the student may have in view. The real fault seems to lie in the attitude both of parents and teachers, toward agriculture, and its kindred productive occupations, and, until this attitude is changed it is useless to look for any great improvement. That it will change, seems evident, and the

movement at present manifesting itself, in favor of more extensive special education in those things relating to the productive occupations, is a very hopeful sign. Let us hope that the change may come soon, for the sooner the community can be relieved of this superfluous swarm of non-producers, the better and more prosperous it will be.

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The Sum of Some Trifles.

The traveller going through foreign countries usually finds in the manners and usages of the people a good deal, which, because unlike that to which he is accustomed, excites remark. People have gone so far in this direction as to write books on the subject. These books may have one of two effects—they may dull our interest in the same observations amongst ourselves or they may make us quicker to note anything unusual.

On this continent the general difference is that for which nationality is responsible. In a country like that to the south of us, where democracy is a matter for national pride, we look for tendencies toward the free and easy. In our own Canada we have an area equally large but a population which, by comparison is sparse. In cities or other centres of population we look for a correctness of behavior and speech which is the natural result of environment, modified, of course, by station in life.

It is in rural communities, therefore, that we look for customs which may

excite a second notice, and the person so favored as to travel over this Dominion may find much that is peculiar amongst our five and one-quarter millions of people. In Ontario we perhaps find in its truest type that easy mixture of patricianism and downright good-fellowship which renders their home life enjoyable, and which is productive of genuine contentment. The farm is a portion of a lot, on a given concession, running across a certain township, through which the road affords them access to a county town as their main centre. The vehicle in use, according to season, will be a buggy or cutter, either one well enough kept to be a source of pride and a hall-mark of taste with its owner. Whether driving or walking, the citizen on meeting another will turn to the right, or, in passing from the rear, turn to the left, over hills, through hollows or past woodland.

Go out to the newer Provinces west and the residents will be found on sections of certain ranges of town-