

the climate ; against wolves and bears, and the more terrible black-fly and mosquito. And, as one of them, Major Strickland, testifies, they had their reward. He, at any rate, accepted the conditions of the new life and soon learned to love the new land. Indeed, it took him captive from the first. When the inland ocean of Huron first burst on his sight, from the wooded heights which overhung the mouth of the Maitland, where the town of Goderich was planted, he says, "I thought Canada then—and I have never changed my opinion—the most beautiful country in the world." Elsewhere* he says, "A man of education will always possess an influence even in bush society; he may be poor, but his value will not be tested by the low standard of money, and he will be appealed to for his judgment in many matters, and will be inducted into several offices more honourable than lucrative." That is the style of man to lay the foundations and build the walls of a country. His testimony is abundantly confirmed by the lives of men widely different, like Philemon Wright in Hull township, Colonel Talbot on Lake Erie, the Highland Chief McNab on the Ottawa, and many a noble old Loyalist from the States.

It is interesting to find that even at the early stage in our history when the Canada Company began its reign, our fathers had grown into a distinct type of humanity. We do not wonder that our French-speaking fellow-countrymen—sometimes rather absurdly called French—should be Canadians pure and simple. They are the early core of the Canadian people. What do they know of France or of any other land but their own? For generations their forefathers have dwelt on the banks of the mighty St. Lawrence, and they love it as the Swiss love their mountains. But it was otherwise in Upper Canada. The various nationalities who settled it had—at the time I speak of—little more than one generation in which to become one people. Yet Galt's immigrants, in describing them—sometimes in sketches not flattering to our family pride—after the manner of outspoken Britons when sketching people who are not English, call attention to the singularly complete process of unification which had already taken place. "They deemed it somewhat remarkable that the Canadian popula-

* "Twenty Years' Experience in Canada West."