

valuable settlers who have redeemed a dry and barren region, and by irrigation and co-operation have made it to blossom as the rose. Others declare the Mormons to be lacking in education and independence. The writer visited Raymond, their chief industrial centre, where the great sugar factory has been established by Mormon capital. The miles of fields of beets about Raymond is a sight to be remembered. The writer met a number of leading Mormons, and lectured to an audience of several hundred in the Mormon temple. The only public question at issue seems to be the marriage relation existing among them. On their coming to Canada, Sir John Macdonald, who arranged the terms with their leaders, declared that all immigrants who come to Canada can bring but one wife. That is of course a legal demand in Canada. So far as has been found out, there has been no transgression of this law by the Mormons of Southern Alberta.

The settlement of 17,000 Galicians near Edmonton is in the eyes of some a menace. There are said to be 65,000 Galicians west of Lake Superior.

The president of the Saskatchewan Land Company declared to the writer that immigration from the continent of Europe is a necessity for the settlement of the west. Young Canadians and Americans declare that nothing but the open prairies ready for the plough will suit them. The forest or the shrubby land is what they avoid.

The Galician loves the wood and the "scrub." Then as to his settling in blocks, it is inevitable, for Canadians or Americans will not live among foreigners in their settlements.

But the Galicians are industrious, economical, quick to learn; their sons and daughters go freely to work among Canadian people, and they all have a strong desire to become Canadians. They declare their appreciation of Canadian liberty, contrasting it with the tyranny of Austria and Russia, which they have escaped. They then must have schools.

In this connection the great question for Alberta to face is not the matter of four or five dwindling minority schools, one of which will be given up by the end of the year, but the obligation of giving public schools to all the children, whether English, French, German, Scandinavian or Galician, and insisting that they shall be taught in the English tongue. Moreover, it is the duty of the strong Churches of the land to see that the Church as well as the school shall bring its benign influence on every class in every settlement.

There can be no true loyalty to the state without a belief in an overruling Supreme Being; there can be no legislation of a lasting character which ignores the sanctions of religion; there can be no true regard for Sunday when there is no church to mark and utilize that day. There can be no substantial progress in the body politic where there is no religion to guide and maintain it.

Canadian civilization is on its trial in our mountain provinces. The next ten years will determine whether or not we are equal to meeting the demand upon us. The writer is an optimist in this matter. We certainly ought to grapple with it courageously.

By self-denial, by self-sacrifice, by statesmanship, and by close study, using both the church and the school, we shall succeed.