

as his energy. He was as Protean in wrestling with nature as in his literary labours; "now bent on the discovery of an indelible ink, now on the damming of a river, now on the construction of a bridge, now on the cutting of a canal, now on the felling of a forest, now on the draining of a swamp, now on the invention of a hydraulic machine, now on the endowment of an hospital, now on the formation of a Company, and now on the founding of a city." He was a man of ideas, and it is appointed unto all such men to suffer. To-day, we could afford to pay a good price for a John Galt to lead and guide the colonization of our North-West, but whether we would engage him if he were to be had is another question. The salary demanded might be obstacle enough. A railway willingly pays fifty or sixty thousand dollars a year for a first-class managing director. The Dominion, which spends millions annually on public works, grudges one-tenth of the sum to a responsible head, and ends by having no one responsible. A proposal to pay a competent head his market salary would destroy any Government. A High Commissioner in London is considered dear at \$10,000, and a Governor-General ruinous at \$50,000, though the one or the other is in a position to save or destroy not only millions but the honour of the country. What of that! Scores of politicians are ready at a moment's notice to undertake the job for half the money.

Perhaps the best thing that Galt did for Canada was to bring to it settlers of the right stock. Immigrants, like other people or things, should be weighed rather than counted, though it is difficult to do the weighing. Comparisons are always odious, and in this case time is needed for making tests or arriving at well-established conclusions. Galt had the ear of the educated classes in Britain, and in his day there were—for more reasons than one—numbers of people possessed of some capital who were eager to emigrate. They saw little hope of a future for their children in the old land, and Galt and Dunlop described Canada so as to touch their imaginations. Some of these, after enjoying the fishing and the shooting, became bitterly dissatisfied with their lot and with the men who had attracted them from the old easy ruts in which they had moved at home. Others struggled manfully, in some cases heroically, against the difficulties of "the bush" and