

this country are to be knit together into one homogeneous community, it is not to be brought about by trampling upon the most sacred sentiments of the human heart. Cosmopolitan we are to be—this is one of the imperative demands of Christianity—but neither the teaching nor the example of Jesus and His Apostles, sanctions disregard of country. They submitted even to the authority of a foreign Government, and taught all men to respect it and pray for it. I repeat, then, that an affectionate remembrance of our Fatherland is not only pardonable but highly commendable; and we should endeavour to profit by all the lessons which her history is capable of teaching us. There are many things among her Institutions which it would be foolish in us to attempt to transplant to our virgin soil. These have been shaped by the peculiarities of her circumstances. Our environments are different, and so we must in such matters strike out a new course for ourselves. But there are certain great principles which have been illustrated in the past condition, and course of events in Scotland that it will be well for us to ponder in laying the foundations of a new nationality in this Dominion.

1. The Scots have always evinced a strong love of learning. As a consequence, the country has been well provided with schools and colleges, so that education has been for hundreds of years widely diffused as compared with most other countries, very few of the people being unable to read and write. She may have been outstripped for the last generation or so by Germany and the United States of America, and even by our Province of Ontario, in the perfection of her educational appliances; but such has been the desire for instruction generally among the people that, even with inferior machinery, they have exhibited results on a large scale that have never been surpassed; and it will be well if all the improved methods recently introduced with the view of "making learning easy" will yield as good fruit as the parochial schools and academies and colleges of Scotland have produced in the way of making a whole people an intelligent, a reading and thoughtful people. And applying whatever test you please, you will find that a nation will be great and powerful in proportion as it has read and thought to purpose. I for one do not esteem it the greatest glory of a nation that it is famous in war; but to be efficient soldiers, requires at least great moral endurance, as the result of thoughtful resoluteness, in addition to physical energy, and in both these respects the Scots have never come behind, as the superiority of the Germans to the French in these two essential points was so conspicuously manifest in the late gigantic struggle between the two nations. Now, for the attainment of the thoughtfulness that characterizes the Scotch, they are greatly indebted to the far-seeing Reformers, who planted the Parochial system. At no period during the last two centuries has there existed in Scotland anything like the almost brutal ignorance prevailing in England at the beginning of this century, which John Foster has so graphically portrayed. Instead of the existence of an almost impassable gulf betwixt the