

that the victory they celebrated was a national (in the sense of French) victory. Another portentous sign is found in the fact that Sir George Cartier, a prominent French-Canadian politician, said on one occasion that the French-Canadians were much exercised over the defeat of France in the Franco-Prussian war.

That the inhabitants of Quebec have always been, are now, and are likely to continue to be French Catholics, he might have saved himself the trouble of proving, and it has long been cheap knowledge that they were not so "progressive" as their Anglo-Saxon neighbors. These, however, are not facts that should drive sensible Canadians to distraction. Under the present arrangement it makes but little difference to people in other parts of the Dominion whether the inhabitants of Quebec are French or English, Catholic or Protestant. Ontario has no right to demand that Quebec become English or that she become Protestant. Her right is to demand that Quebec should pay her honest share of the burdens of Federal government, and receive only her fair proportion of patronage and advantage from the Government. If the citizens of Quebec did this, there would be nothing alarming in the fact of their being French or of their being Catholic. If they do not bear their share of the national burdens—and I am fully convinced that they do not—the remedy is not to be found in reproaching them with being French and Catholic. The remedy is in the hands of the electors. Once any party convinces the people of the other Provinces that Quebec is getting an undue proportion of Federal money, there will go to Ottawa at the next election a majority of men pledged to the removal of the injustice. The giving of subsidies from the Dominion to the Provinces is, as Mr. Smith points out, undoubtedly a defect in our constitution. But to declare, as he seems to, that it cannot be changed, is mere childishness, and to believe that it is more difficult to change it than it would be to make an alteration of similar importance in the constitution of the United States, is to be deluded. If the Canadian people were as united in requesting the change as the American people must be before they can amend their constitution, the British Parliament would make the change at once. All that is necessary to secure any change in the constitution is a reasonable amount of unanimity among the Canadian people. The British Parliament will not hesitate to give official recognition to any such change in Canadian sentiment as is clear and pronounced. Mr. Smith himself intimates his belief that the British Parliament would pass an Act sanctioning a political union of Canada with the Republic but, in the same breath, asks us to believe that she would not amend the British North America Act!

The truth is that Ontario's political leaders, no less than Quebec's, are afraid to speak out and propose that the Provinces should support the Provincial Governments by direct taxation. "The people won't stand it" is the undercurrent of opinion one finds among Canadian politicians, French and English alike. So long as the people do not believe the change to be in their interest, no change can be made. But let us be honest about it, and instead of reproaching Quebec with being French, admit that the explanation is that the people of the Dominion are under the sway of party, and that voters think more of party victory than of good government.

Again, Mr. Smith takes occasion to suggest that French loyalty to Canada could not be relied upon in case of war with the United States, because two-sevenths of the French-Canadians are across the line; entirely forgetting the fact, which he so repeatedly makes use of elsewhere in his argument, that nearly one-fifth of the English-Canadians also are in the United States. The French-Canadians might, with almost as much reason, impeach the loyalty of English-speaking Canadians upon this score.

It is not in reference to the race problem only that Mr. Smith takes a dark view of Canadian affairs. He intimates on very insufficient grounds that in Canada there exists a

practice of "working out" or exhausting farms, and moving on to newer lands. It is doubtful if one abandoned farm can be found in Ontario. To believe that such an occurrence is common in Canada is to be mistaken.

He also has his fling at the offices of Governor-General and Lieutenant-Governor. It would be unwarranted to suppose that his estimate of the importance of these offices at all represents Canadian opinion. It has, indeed, become fashionable of late with some to say smart things at the expense of their occupants, but both the officials and the offices are generally respected by the people. Not only so, but many thinking Canadians are not at all convinced that we would improve either our officials or our system of government by electing men to these places.

The statement, again, that Canada is supporting eight constitutional monarchies is true only in the sense in which it is true that the United States are supporting forty-five constitutional monarchies. If the Provincial Government officials were too well paid we could have their salaries reduced.

It would not be just to the kindly spirit which Canadians feel towards British subjects to pass unnoticed the warning given to educated Englishman, who contemplate seeking employment in Canada. Mr. Smith thinks the individual Englishman is received with jealousy and distrust, that he does not get in Canada that even handed justice which is meted out to him in the United States. No Englishman need expect that in Canada the mere fact of being English will set him above natives who are equal to himself in ability and education, though it does make his chances for promotion as good as those of a native. Other things being equal, he will not be, as was once the case preferred before a Canadian; but he will be preferred before all others except Canadians. To expect more than this is only to affect superiority, which is always offensive. The very fact which Mr. Smith relates—that three Englishmen have been appointed to chairs in the University of Toronto within about a decade—is sufficient to overthrow his argument. Which of the great American universities have appointed three Englishmen to their most important and lucrative positions in that time?

In discussing the "Canadian Question" as a matter of practical politics, Mr. Smith has offered nothing new in either argument or information, but all the facts that have been heretofore adduced by various writers and speakers in favor of closer commercial and political relations with the United States are marshalled with his usual skill and acknowledged ability. The humiliation of being a dependency is noticed, and made responsible for the lack of national spirit among Canadians. The difficulties in the way of independence are considered and not deemed insurmountable although great. And the glorious future that Canada might enjoy as a part of the great Republic is set forth. He declares that there is no natural trade between the Provinces; that their natural markets are to the south, and that the fiscal policies of both Canada and the United States, which keep the two countries from trade, are the result of blundering or boodling.

The book is full of entertaining and useful information. To Americans, Australians, Englishmen and Canadians desiring a picture of Canadian social and political life it will be valuable. It must, however, be taken *cum grano*. Attention has been called to a few of the positions taken up by the author in which very many Canadians would not concur, and of much else in the book, it might be said in Mr. Smith's own phrase, "readers had better inquire." He has presented a view of Canadian life and politics for the purpose of advancing a political movement, and in reading the book this fact must never be forgotten. His book must not be mistaken for history. It is a clever piece of pamphleteering, executed with great literary ability, but it is not—and perhaps was not intended to be—a valuable contribution to political science or Canadian history.—
JOHN M. McEVoy, in the *Annals of the American Academy* for November.