

MISSION WORK IN CANADA.

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What solution has the Church of Christ in our land for the problems that attend the coming of these people? What provision has she for their deepest need? What but the Gospel that has proved itself the solution for such problems in other ages? What but the Gospel that is still the power of God unto salvation unto everyone that believeth, be he rude barbarian or cultured Greek? We cannot, we will not, despair of the ability of the Gospel to meet such serious problems as these, when we remember what it already has done for Anglo-Saxon nations, whose ancestors, when Rome was changing her palaces, from brick to marble, were wandering, rude savages, in their forest fastnesses.

The hopeful feature in connection with the problems of immigration is that, in coming to a new land, the minds of men are inclined to open to new influences and to accept the spirit of new surroundings. Leaving behind, oftentimes, conditions with which they have grown weary, they find in the new world a freedom which they recognize with astonished gladness, and finding this associated with the religion of the land that they have adopted as their own, and that they are prepared to love, their minds are rendered at least free from unhappy prejudice. The work of evangelization among them may be difficult but it is possible; it is most easily possible while the life that they have adopted is new. It is not to be dreamed of that the Church is to neglect these strangers; neglect means national peril and religious decline. Evangelize them, and

among heterogeneous multitudes flocking to us there may be created, not only a national spirit, but what is of far greater moment, a healthy morality and a regard for Christian institutions which will stand as a bulwark for the land in days of peril. Every reason that can be urged, from that of our own safety to that of love for our own King and desire for His glory, is here to encourage us in the work. Not only is the responsibility pressing but the opportunity is inviting. It is another Pentecostal opportunity for the Church; here are men speaking the polyglot languages of Europe and Asia, who, if evangelized, will serve the Church to-day as did those long ago, who carried from Jerusalem to their own lands the treasures of the Gospel. Every consideration which has weight for the encouragement of those missions, which are called "Continental," carried on by the churches of Great Britain, and many of those considerations which weigh with our churches in the noble enterprise of Foreign Missions to the heathen, are here to encourage and constrain us in the prosecution of a work, a grander and more hopeful than which God never gave to any Church. With no humbler watchword than "Canada for Christ" can the Church be satisfied; to labor to that end is a privilege high and inspiring.

I mention one other consideration, in view of which the importance of Home Mission Work in Canada is apparent—the *perils incident to the rapid accumulation of great wealth*.

That opportunities for such accumulation of wealth are here, the