

institutions by a people indicates in them a love for their peculiar collective life. It does not matter that many Westerners are unaware of entertaining any affection for Canada. Enough for strong political continuance that they work and associate hopefully for their individual profit. But there is much more positive Canadianism in the West than would appear from mere consideration of its immigrant elements. The native sentiments of the English, Scotch, and Irish do not cross, but intermingle with, and strengthen, those which consciously make for conservation of Canada apart from the Republic. These people, and no less the Germans, Scandinavians, Hungarians, Russians, acquire a local patriotism as soon as they take land, since every westerner falls in love with his own tract, boast its superiority, plants a fixed foot, and is speedily urged into municipal, provincial, and even federal politics, by desire to improve the value of the farm, through voting the visible and invisible Canadian community into spending public money where it will do the farm most good. Thus the household lamp lights the whole way to Edmonton, Regina, Winnipeg, Ottawa.

Sometimes the immigrants are conscious of, and voice, their Canadianism. For instance, the one Slavonic poet of our prairies has sung in his own language that his people, having received land, and welcome, and freedom from ocean to ocean, feel unworthy to call Canada their own dear country, since they have not made sacrifices, nor shed their blood on her behalf. But our children, he continues, born native to the blessings for which their parents can return but gratitude, shall be entitled to call Canada their own beloved country, and proud to stand with her other children for her defence. When the Galicians—one of the most industrious and promising elements of our new population—are, as one of them lately told Professor Osborne, raising not Galicians but Canadians, we may be fairly sure that our closer congeners are breeding their young similarly.

As for the Americans, their instinct is primarily for that ordered liberty which they privately and publicly declare to