

A CELTIC CANADA

A fascinating question has been put to The Daily News by a correspondent: "Where are the English in Canada?" It sounds simple, but it is as compound and far-reaching a question as any one could discover. Its real meaning is: Where are the English in comparison with the Irish and the Scottish? Why do the people of English origin take a less prominent place in our corporate, official and scholastic life than their neighbors of Celtic blood?

The Census shows that we have in this country 1,823,150 persons of English origin. Scots and Irishmen combined make a total of 2,038,264. One would suppose that there would be a fair division of the Seats of the Mighty between Saxon and Celt, the Celt having slightly the better of the division in proportion to the greater Celtic population. But fifteen Mac's are in the House of Commons alone, to say nothing of the Hon. Mr. Doherty, Mr. Devlin, Hon. Mr. Hughes, Mr. Morphy and others who look on a shamrock without serious annoyance. The Mac's in the Ontario Legislature are eight in number, and there are Duffs, and Fergusons, and Foys. Tell us also the nationality of Sandy Grant. Look at the Chief Justices of Supreme Courts. Of Canada, Sir Charles Fitzpatrick; of New Brunswick, Hon. Ezekiel McLeod; of Prince Edward Island, Sir William Sullivan. Look at the Law List, and behold the Jamiesons, Slatterys, Stewarts, Campbells, Muirs, Crecars, Cahills, Malones, McDonalds, McEvoy's, Macphersons, McCarthys, Kehoes, Magees, Blakes, Anglins, Bruces, Mackays, Kerrs, O'Briens and O'Donoghucs. The head of the Anglican Church in this Diocese has an Irish name. A majority of the editors in Toronto are of Scottish descent. The chief newspaper proprietor of Montreal is a Graham of Claverhouse. The editor of The Canadian Magazine is a MacTavish.

Our correspondent declares that the majority of the names in Normal School and University examinations are not Saxon. He points to the Presidents of our Colleges, past and present, to the Banking and Business community, and finds Saxon names continually in the minority. Frivolous explanation of such a condition of affairs would not be difficult. One might go back to the jokes of Dr. Johnson's time, dealing with the natural anxiety of a Scot to get away from his own country. One might recall the asseveration of John Wilkes, that a sea-rover once plundered seven Scottish islands and secured a grand total of seven shillings and sixpence. So the stock jests concerning the Irish might easily be revived. But there are more solid reasons.

At the time of the American Revolution the majority of the people in the Colonies were English Whigs, descendants of Puritan and middle-class ancestry. Most of these, with the natural tendency of the Englishman to be "Wat Tyler-ish" under oppression, became Rebels and founded the American Republic. The United Empire Loyalists, who refused to conform, were generally of North of Ireland stock, children of the Pale, whose loyalism was a religion and never faltered. These families made their way sooner or later to Ontario. Many a Canadian's ancestors reached this country—even as late as 1809—by way of New York State. The Scottish occupation began through the Hudson's Bay Company. Many clerks and factors all over the wilderness were from Glasgow, Leith, Edinburgh and Aberdeen. As the country filled, their reports to friends at home turned a continuous stream of immigration in this direction. So also the Irish people settled here found the land good and sent home cheerful reports. In

the main emigration from Southern Ireland went towards the United States. Our draft was from the North, especially from 1809 to 1835.

For many years the emigrating classes from England, lacking the sentimental attachment to the flag so ardent in Ulster, saw a brilliant future in the great Republic. The established Scottish and Irish families in Canada, after half a century of industry, acquired some wealth, their children sought and obtained a higher education and entered the learned professions. It is only within the memory of middle-aged men that steady English immigration began. Many of these people, amongst the best of our new-comers, have settled on the land and rapidly are winning wealth and position. Fifty years hence their sons will have fully as prominent a place in the intellectual life of the community as the sons of the Scottish and Irish immigrants of other days have to-day.