

Following the example of the United States, a considerable population has been of late years steadily flowing from Ontario and the other provinces into the rich prairie lands of the Canadian West, where the opportunities for making new homes for themselves, and amassing a competency at the least, are now far greater than any offered in the United States. These facts encourage us to believe that the exodus, which has been an unsatisfactory feature of the past history of Canada, is practically at an end.

Let us now consider some of the results which have been achieved by these five millions of people who occupy a country with an area of only 400,000 square miles less than that of all Europe, and greater than that of the United States, if we leave out Alaska.

The wealth of the Dominion is still derived chiefly from its forests, its agriculture, and its mines, though it is satisfactory to know that of late years a large and valuable manufacturing industry has been built up. The value of the aggregate trade of Imports and Exports may be placed at present at a little over 40,000,000*l.* sterling, or an increase of 35,000,000*l.* since the commencement of the reign of the Queen. No feature of the commerce of Canada is more satisfactory than the growth of internal trade in manufactures and home products between the different members of the Confederation—a trade which does not show in the Canadian blue book of Imports and Exports.

At the present time there are throughout Canada probably over 3000 mills and factories, small and large, engaged in manufacturing industries of all kinds; representing a capital of some 35,000,000*l.*; employing upwards of 260,000 persons; paying wages to the amount of 15,000,000*l.*; and producing goods annually to the value of 65,000,000*l.* Whatever doubts political economists may have of the soundness of the 'national policy' of Canada, there is some reason in the argument advanced by its advocates, that it has been successful in making Canada in certain respects independent of other countries, in giving employment to capital and people, in teaching Canadians the benefits of self-reliance, and in helping to create a national feeling. This is a question, however, best left to the domain of the politician and journalist, who are likely to perplex us to the end—if, indeed, the end of the discussion can ever come.

Canadians refer with much satisfaction to the statistics of their maritime wealth. Their fishing grounds have been, from the earliest times of which we have any record, the resort of the fleets of the great maritime powers. The value of the annual catch of fish has increased from two millions of pounds sterling