its millions on the Hoosac tunnel, to tempt some portion of the wealth of the West towards New England. The West is the Eldorado of the New World. Its merchant princes see that they are paying black mail to New York, and wish for some direct water communication with the ocean. This is supplied by the circuitous course of the Mississippi, and by the more direct line of the Canadian lakes and the river and Gulf of St. Lawrence. They are urging that the locks should be enlarged and the canals deepened, so that propellers of 2000 tons may find their way, without breaking bulk, to the ocean; and the Canadian Government is taking steps to afford the necessary accommodation to Western shipping. Already propellers find their way from Toronto to Pictou in Nova Scotia. But there is an era in Western trade about to be opened that has not been thought of by Western traders. Supposing that every bushel that finds its way to Europe should be shipped through Canadian lakes and the St. Lawrence, only one-fifth of the products of the harvests of the West finds its way to Europe. The remainder is consumed at home, one half being needed by the populous States on the Atlantic seaboard. Hence the utmost success that can be aimed at by Canadian statesmen is to divert one-fifth of Western trade into the St. Lawrence.

A little energy only is needed to throw open a far more important branch of Western trade to the water highway of the New Dominion. When a lake-propeller reaches Pictou, it may safely pass through the Straits of Canso and reach Halifax on the southern shores of the province, but there its voyage must terminate. The voyage thence to the Eastern States needs an ocean steamship, and is as formidable as a passage across the Atlantic. The cost and delay of such a transhipment are such that the Erie Canal, and, above all, American lines of railway, would be less costly, and certainly far more expeditious.

But Nova Scotia, which, as has been stated, is a peninsula standing far out into the Atlantic, is connected only with the Con-