

day, in which further borrowing can afford no sensible relief, and will only make matters worse instead of better, has now assuredly settled down upon them. From the Union, in 1840, to Dominion Day, the Imports into Canada exceeded the Exports to the extent of \$174,975,924; and from 1867 to June 30th, 1891, we bought more than we sold by \$491,053,774. It will thus be seen, that in the fifty-one years succeeding the Union our Expenditure exceeded our Income by the vast sum of \$666,029,698, and on at least a moiety of which interest still continues to be paid. The deficiency in our resources, caused by the Balance of Trade being almost constantly against us annually, had to be made good by borrowed money, or by the permanent capital brought into the country by settlers and others, which could only be a fraction of the whole amount. While the excess of expenditure over income—of imports over exports—must be fairly charged to the debit account of the people, themselves, the inflation produced by the lavish outlay of borrowed capital, stimulated the Dominion and local Governments, and city and town municipalities, to recklessly plunge deeper and deeper into debt. On the 30th of June, 1891, the public debt of the Dominion amounted to \$237,809,030, much of which has been spent in non-productive enterprises, which produce no return to the tax payer for his annual interest payments. The Provincial Governments, especially in the case of Quebec, have also been wasteful in their expenditure; and numerous municipalities have followed their evil example. In this way the benefits which arise from the vast natural resources of the country are being neutralised, the springs of its prosperity weakened by premature exhaustion, and a severe adverse artificial pressure on daily existence produced, to escape from which people fly their country in dismay. Unless a new leaf is turned over, and a great change for the better takes place very soon, the Dominion, like all its constitutional predecessors in Canada, will have presently worn itself out by its own friction—by causes originating within itself—and another of these necessary revolutions, which have arisen every few decades in this country, will be forced upon us in order to meet the difficulties of the new crisis which is already appearing above our national horizon. The Constitution of 1791 was no longer workable in 1840, and had to be abandoned. The Union Act ceased to be of value twenty-seven years after it had been passed; and the Dominion arose as the only cure for complete Deadlock. In twenty-five years more, a state of things has arisen, as regards the Dominion, which apparently indicates that the British North America Act has also nearly performed its mission, and that we are on the eve of another grave crisis which can only be obviated by a fresh revolution. What the character of that revolution may be the author does not undertake to predicate, and, with the clear light that he has thrown upon the past, leaves his readers to work out the problem of the future for themselves. There are, unquestionably, dangerous breakers and a lee shore ahead. It now remains to be seen whether Government and People will rise to the occasion, and safely win the calm sea beyond.

THE END OF VOLUME II.