

mechanics, and labourers went to the United States, as great inducements were held out to them, and as it afforded better chances of a livelihood, and of success in life, than most of the young people could find at home. The boundary between the two countries is an invisible one; the same language prevails; there is a common ancestry, and there has always been considerable intercourse between Canadians and Americans. For these reasons going to the south was hardly like going to a foreign country; but, in any case, having regard to the condition of things prevailing in British North America before confederation, and even for many years afterwards, they had no alternative, and their education and training made them more acceptable in the United States than European immigrants, both on the prairies and in the towns. It must be borne in mind that the prairies in the western States have been available for colonisation for the last forty years or more, and that the industrial development of the eastern States had also been making great strides, before Canada commenced its upward movement in the same direction. There is little emigration to the United States from Canada now compared with former times. The Washington authorities tried to keep up the delusion that the contrary was the case, but the official inquiry made by the Canadian Government a few years ago proved so clearly that the figures published periodically were unworthy of credit that they were discontinued. Indeed, it is asserted that a movement in the opposite direction is now taking place, and it is claimed that two or three thousand persons have crossed from Dakota to Manitoba this year. Many of them are probably Canadians who settled in the States in the past, while others are American citizens. It is often asked if the fiscal policy of the United States has been the direct cause of any emigration from Canada. This may have been the case years ago from the impetus the heavy Customs duties gave to American industries, and the numerous openings thus afforded to young men of energy and ability. It is not probable that the tariffs of either country have had much to do with any agricultural emigration. The cost of living in the States is much heavier than in the Dominion, as the American tariff has always been on an average the higher by at least 20 per cent., and, owing to the McKinley tariff the difference is now probably greater. It may, however, be taken for granted that the inauguration of the National Policy of Canada—whatever may be said against it by political economists—the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and the consequent consolidation of the Dominion, have had the effect, to a greater extent than formerly, of keeping Canadians at home, where they now find more numerous outlets for their intelligence and enterprise. It is not generally known that there is a large number of Americans living in Canada.